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HONGKONG, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD, 1925

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### TIME-TABLE.

#### WEEK DAYS

| STATIONS      | AM   | PM    | AM    | PM    | AM   | PM   | AM   | PM   |
|---------------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|
| Kowloon       | 6.40 | 9.15  | 10.30 | 12.00 | 1.15 | 4.35 | 5.30 | 7.10 |
| Yau Ma Tei    | 6.50 | 9.25  | 10.35 | 12.05 | 1.25 | 4.45 | 5.40 | 7.20 |
| Shatin        | 7.00 | 9.35  | 10.45 | 12.15 | 1.35 | 4.55 | 5.50 | 7.30 |
| Tai Po        | 7.10 | 9.45  | 10.55 | 12.25 | 1.45 | 5.05 | 6.00 | 7.40 |
| Tai Po Market | 7.20 | 9.55  | 11.05 | 12.35 | 1.55 | 5.15 | 6.10 | 7.50 |
| Fanning       | 7.30 | 10.05 | 11.15 | 12.45 | 2.05 | 5.25 | 6.20 | 8.00 |
| Shum Shue     | 7.40 | 10.15 | 11.25 | 12.55 | 2.15 | 5.35 | 6.30 | 8.10 |
| Shum Shue     | 7.50 | 10.25 | 11.35 | 1.05  | 2.25 | 5.45 | 6.40 | 8.20 |

| STATIONS      | AM   | PM    | AM    | PM   | AM   | PM   | AM   | PM   |
|---------------|------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Shum Shue     | 7.50 | 10.25 | 11.35 | 1.05 | 2.25 | 5.45 | 6.40 | 8.20 |
| Shum Shue     | 8.00 | 10.35 | 11.45 | 1.15 | 2.35 | 5.55 | 6.50 | 8.30 |
| Fanning       | 8.10 | 10.45 | 11.55 | 1.25 | 2.45 | 6.05 | 7.00 | 8.40 |
| Tai Po Market | 8.20 | 10.55 | 12.05 | 1.35 | 2.55 | 6.15 | 7.10 | 8.50 |
| Tai Po        | 8.30 | 11.05 | 12.15 | 1.45 | 3.05 | 6.25 | 7.20 | 9.00 |
| Shatin        | 8.40 | 11.15 | 12.25 | 1.55 | 3.15 | 6.35 | 7.30 | 9.10 |
| Yau Ma Tei    | 8.50 | 11.25 | 12.35 | 2.05 | 3.25 | 6.45 | 7.40 | 9.20 |
| Kowloon       | 9.00 | 11.35 | 12.45 | 2.15 | 3.35 | 6.55 | 7.50 | 9.30 |

#### SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

| STATIONS      | AM   | PM    | AM    | PM    | AM   | PM   | AM   | PM   |
|---------------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|
| Kowloon       | 6.40 | 9.15  | 10.30 | 12.00 | 1.15 | 4.35 | 5.30 | 7.10 |
| Yau Ma Tei    | 6.50 | 9.25  | 10.35 | 12.05 | 1.25 | 4.45 | 5.40 | 7.20 |
| Shatin        | 7.00 | 9.35  | 10.45 | 12.15 | 1.35 | 4.55 | 5.50 | 7.30 |
| Tai Po        | 7.10 | 9.45  | 10.55 | 12.25 | 1.45 | 5.05 | 6.00 | 7.40 |
| Tai Po Market | 7.20 | 9.55  | 11.05 | 12.35 | 1.55 | 5.15 | 6.10 | 7.50 |
| Fanning       | 7.30 | 10.05 | 11.15 | 12.45 | 2.05 | 5.25 | 6.20 | 8.00 |
| Shum Shue     | 7.40 | 10.15 | 11.25 | 12.55 | 2.15 | 5.35 | 6.30 | 8.10 |
| Shum Shue     | 7.50 | 10.25 | 11.35 | 1.05  | 2.25 | 5.45 | 6.40 | 8.20 |

| STATIONS      | AM   | PM    | AM    | PM   | AM   | PM   | AM   | PM   |
|---------------|------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Shum Shue     | 7.50 | 10.25 | 11.35 | 1.05 | 2.25 | 5.45 | 6.40 | 8.20 |
| Shum Shue     | 8.00 | 10.35 | 11.45 | 1.15 | 2.35 | 5.55 | 6.50 | 8.30 |
| Fanning       | 8.10 | 10.45 | 11.55 | 1.25 | 2.45 | 6.05 | 7.00 | 8.40 |
| Tai Po Market | 8.20 | 10.55 | 12.05 | 1.35 | 2.55 | 6.15 | 7.10 | 8.50 |
| Tai Po        | 8.30 | 11.05 | 12.15 | 1.45 | 3.05 | 6.25 | 7.20 | 9.00 |
| Shatin        | 8.40 | 11.15 | 12.25 | 1.55 | 3.15 | 6.35 | 7.30 | 9.10 |
| Yau Ma Tei    | 8.50 | 11.25 | 12.35 | 2.05 | 3.25 | 6.45 | 7.40 | 9.20 |
| Kowloon       | 9.00 | 11.35 | 12.45 | 2.15 | 3.35 | 6.55 | 7.50 | 9.30 |

#### SHA TAU KOK BRANCH.

| STATIONS      | AM   | PM    | STATIONS      | AM    | PM   |
|---------------|------|-------|---------------|-------|------|
| Fanning       | 7.45 | 11.30 | Shik Chung An | 10.25 | 1.15 |
| Shik Chung An | 8.30 | 12.15 | Fanning       | 11.10 | 2.00 |

| STATIONS      | AM   | PM    | STATIONS      | AM    | PM   |
|---------------|------|-------|---------------|-------|------|
| Fanning       | 7.45 | 11.30 | Shik Chung An | 10.25 | 1.15 |
| Shik Chung An | 8.30 | 12.15 | Fanning       | 11.10 | 2.00 |

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Serve in high-ball glass  
Add Sparkling Water.

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One quart of Bacardi  
One pound of Sugar  
One quart of Farnese Oolong Tea  
Use the grog, adding equal  
Part of very hot water  
Serve with slices of lemon  
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One glass of Bacardi  
Fill glass with Sparkling Water.

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One Glass hot Milk  
One tablespoonful of sugar  
A pinch of nutmeg  
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## THE STOCK EXCHANGE ENQUIRY.

EXHAUSTIVE REPORT BY GOVERNMENT COMMISSION.

FRANK CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS.

It may be recalled that in a proclamation dated August 14th, 1925, H.E. the Governor appointed a Committee to enquire into the arrangements existing in Hongkong for dealing in stocks and shares of public companies. Its members were the Hon. Sir Claud Severn, the Hon. Mr. R. H. Kotewall, Mr. A. H. Barlow, Mr. D. G. M. Bernard, Mr. L. E. Hopkins, Mr. R. F. Mattingly, Mr. E. M. Raymond, and Mr. P. Tester. These gentlemen have just completed their labours, and an admirably clear and exhaustive report, prepared by them, was laid before yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council.

In the introduction, the Committee state that they held meetings on August 20th and 27th, and September 3rd, 10th, and 17th, hearing the evidence of the following gentlemen on the dates named: On August 27th, Mr. P. M. N. da Silva and Mr. J. T. Bagram; on September 3rd, Mr. Menino Fernandez, Mr. W. Ho, and Mr. Soo Pei Shao; on September 10th, Mr. W. J. Carroll, the Hon. Mr. C. McE. Messer, and Mr. J. P. Braga; and on September 17th, Mr. Lee Hysan, Mr. M. A. Razack, and Mr. Joseph Gough. Certain memoranda in addition were submitted to the Committee, by Messrs. J. P. Braga, F. H. Kew, P. M. N. da Silva, J. T. Bagram, and Lee Hysan. The Committee met on October 13th, 16th, and 19th to consider their report, which is divided into three parts, and the major portion which we give below:—

## PART I.

## HISTORY OF THE EXCHANGES.

2.—There are three Exchanges in Hongkong, namely: the Hongkong Stock Exchange, the Hongkong Sharebrokers Association, and the Share and Real Estate Brokers' Society of Hongkong. There are also many share brokers who are not members of any Exchange.

3.—The Hongkong Stock Exchange was originally founded in the year 1891 and took its present form in the year 1922 with a membership limited to 24.

4.—On the 1st October, 1921, owing to the refusal of the Hongkong Stock Exchange to admit certain applicants a new Association came into being, namely: the Hongkong Sharebrokers' Association, whose Memorandum and Articles of Association are, practically identical with those of the Hongkong Stock Exchange.

5.—In June, 1924, the third body came into existence, namely: the Share and Real Estate Brokers' Society of Hongkong which was started by Mr. J. F. Wright and Mr. T. W. Hornby, former members of the Hongkong Stock Exchange. These gentlemen, who returned to the Colony in the year 1924, were not willing to comply with the conditions fixed for their re-entry into the Hongkong Stock Exchange and consequently let it be known that they were going to form a third Exchange.

6.—Throughout the evidence, the three bodies are referred to as No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3 or the First, Second and Third Exchanges respectively.

7.—A distinctive feature in the rules of the third Exchange is that by Article 22 each member of the Society must make a deposit of \$50,000 on the 1st January, 1925, and in the case of members elected after that date then, within one week after election, they must deposit the sum of \$50,000 in cash with the Committee. We have it in evidence that this sum was subsequently reduced to \$30,000 made payable in three instalments of \$10,000 each on the 1st April, 1925, 1st October, 1925, and 1st April, 1926.

8.—The number of members of the third Exchange was limited to thirty, but we were informed by Mr. Fernandez in his evidence that because of the restrictions imposed by Article 22 the number became less: in fact, only six members paid their first instalment of \$10,000, one of whom has asked for it to be returned.

9.—All the three Exchanges have been incorporated under the Hongkong Companies Ordinances. The first Exchange was incorporated under the Companies Ordinances, 1865-1890; the second Exchange under the Companies Ordinances, 1911-1921; and the third Exchange under the Companies Ordinances, 1911-1923. Seats on the first two Exchanges have become very valuable; the last seat sold on the Hongkong Stock Exchange realised a sum of \$40,000. The rise in price was very rapid during the last three years, as we have it in evidence that six years ago a seat was bought for \$1,500. In 1924 the second Exchange increased its membership from 15 to 24 by admitting nine new members at a cost of \$15,000 a seat, which sum was deposited with the Committee. Besides these Exchanges there is a number of outside brokers, and the number of brokers generally is greatly increased by the Article common to all three Exchanges which allows each member, or in the case of a partnership such partnership to employ one authorised clerk who is not a member of the Exchange. It will thus be seen that there may be over 100 persons connected with the three Exchanges, all authorized to deal in shares with members of the public.

10.—During the last few years there has been a large increase in speculative operations on the share market. This increase was mainly due to a great influx of Chinese money which, on account of the unsettled conditions prevailing in China, was brought into the Colony in safety. Money became cheap and this encouraged speculation both on real and anticipated prosperity. There has been a great deal of real prosperity among local companies during the last few years, as an examination of their balance sheets will show, and consequently the value of their shares was bound to rise. In many cases, however, they have risen beyond the figure which the prosperity of the company justifies. With the increase of speculation many persons gave up their ordinary business and took up the work of share broking either as members of an exchange or as outside brokers or authorized clerks.

## PART II.

## CRITICISM OF THE EXCHANGE.

11.—The causes of the collapse of the market in June were the following:—  
(a) Dealing by unsound brokers with unsound clients.  
(b) Dealing by unsound brokers with sound clients.  
(c) Over-financing by native banks who, we are informed, were in the habit of advancing up to 80 per cent. or 90 per cent. of the market value of the shares. Even 100 per cent. has been mentioned.  
(d) The general apprehension felt by the Chinese community as to the probable effect of the threatened strike and a boycott on the prosperity of Hongkong.

At the last moment occurred the moratorium granted to the native banks, the closing of the Stock Exchange, the postponement of the Settlement and the sudden withdrawal of the extensive credit facilities which had hitherto existed.

At the same time we are of opinion that if the first two factors (a) and (b), had not been present the results would not have been nearly so serious and would not have affected so large a number of persons.

## PART III.

## CRITICISM OF THE EXCHANGE.

12.—We are of the opinion that the various Exchanges have not been properly managed and administered. In particular, the following criticisms seem justified from the evidence of the witnesses:—

(a) The Committees are so large that nearly every firm belonging to an Exchange has a member for a partner on the Committee. It is obvious that this makes disciplinary measures difficult.  
(b) The Articles of Association of the Exchanges appear to make it impossible for the Committees to take action against defaulting members except on receipt of a complaint. Such complaints are rarely forthcoming and consequently members are permitted to continue to trade although they are known to be insolvent. At the same time the Committees do not appear to have exercised such powers as they possessed.

(c) A former Vice-Chairman of the Sharebrokers' Association stated in the course of his evidence that he saw no objection to a broker carrying on business while he was insolvent, and this seems to have been the attitude of all the Exchanges provided that admission of liability was made by the giving of promissory notes. It seems to have been considered quite in order for a partner to go on dealing even if he was incapable of meeting existing obligations. No formal complaint was made to the Committee in any such case and it has been given in evidence that there has been no recent case of a member of any of the Exchanges being expelled, suspended, or even censured for failing to meet his obligations. The effect of the promissory note system was to undermine the stability of the market although the settlements apparently were carried through without any untoward difficulty. Such a position was absolutely unsound and when difficulties arose in connection with the June Settlement the real position was exposed.

(d) Although brokers guarantee every transaction which they put through they have accepted business with clients as to whose financial stability they have had no knowledge. No business man would enter into the reckless guarantees which some brokers appear to have undertaken. In other words there has been dealing with persons who obviously could not pay if they lost.

(e) There has been no disclosure by brokers in cases where they have been dealing as principals on their own account and it was even admitted by some that it was customary to charge brokerage in such cases. There is thus every facility and every inducement to the broker to speculate on his own account to a greater extent than he can afford.

(f) There are no rules, or at best insufficient rules, for the conduct of Settlement Days or any machinery for the internal working of the Exchanges.

(Continued on page 3.)

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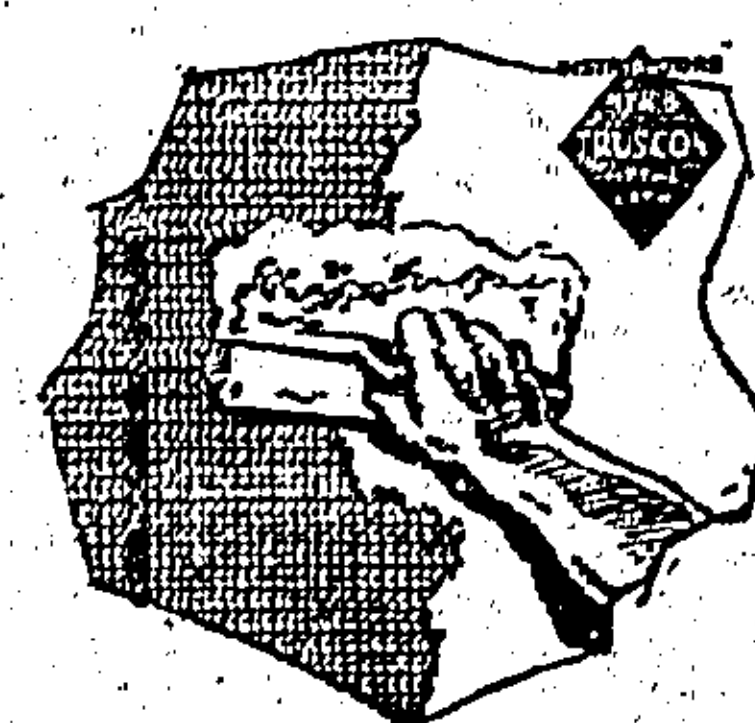
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## THE STOCK EXCHANGE ENQUIRY (Continued).

(8) It would appear that since the happening of the crisis in June no systematic enquiry has been held by any of the Exchanges into the conduct of its members; at any rate, no public indication has been made of the expulsion, suspension, or censure of any broker.

(9) We question the advisability of keeping the Exchanges closed for a long period and cannot help feeling that it is unfair to the general body of the public.

(10) We, therefore, have cause to believe that the share market has been carrying on its business for some time past on a thoroughly unsound basis and, even if the financial crisis had not taken place on the 22nd June, the time was bound to come in any case when a general slump in the market would have had very serious consequences.

## THE REMEDIES.

(11) It is difficult to deal with the situation by legislation. Legislation must be fair and impartial, and there is no more reason why it should be aimed at dealings in stocks and shares than at dealings in any other commodity. Speculation takes place in many other things besides stocks and shares, and one can instance the great amount of speculation which takes place here and elsewhere when times are opportune in various commodities and also in the currencies of foreign countries. The soundness of this view is borne out by the fact that none of the world's big stock exchanges are governed by legislation but by rules made binding by them upon their members and very rigidly enforced in order that the reputation of the particular exchange may be upheld.

(12) The obvious remedy then for the present state of affairs in Hongkong is the reorganization of the Exchanges by their members by amending and adding to their rules and, above all, by enforcing strictly those rules when they are made. If the members of the Exchanges will not do this it would be possible by legislation to enact rules which would be binding on every association of share-brokers whether incorporated or not. Legislation which forces certain terms upon parties, whether they wish to have them or not, is not uncommon. For instance the Harter Act in America, the Sea Carriage of Goods Act, 1924, in Australia, and the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act, 1924, in England all incorporate certain clauses in bills of lading whether the parties wish to have them or not. Such legislation should however only be a last resort, as rules adopted and adhered to by an Exchange itself have far greater elasticity.

(13) The present administration of the Exchange appears to need attention in the following respects:—

## (i)—The revision of the Articles of Association.

These are the rules under which the Exchanges are governed. Each Exchange might with advantage study the rules of the London Stock Exchange. A large number of these are not applicable to local conditions, but there are others which certainly should be adopted here bearing in mind that they not only ensure that all dealings with or between members shall be free from fraud or dishonesty but also provide a very valuable protection to the public.

Without attempting to make an exhaustive summary of the Rules in question the following are suggested as particularly important:—

(a) Candidates for admission must be recommended by three persons of reputation who will say that the individual is fit to be a broker. In London there is a pecuniary obligation on those who recommend a candidate.

(b) A member may not transact business for a principal who to his knowledge is in default to another member unless such principal shall have made a satisfactory arrangement with his creditors.

(c) A member unable to fulfil his engagements shall be publicly declared a defaulter and thereby cease to be a member. [Defaulters may however be re-elected if they make good their default.]

(d) A member may not connive at a failure by accepting less than the full amount of his debt and is liable to refund any money or securities received from a defaulter, provided such defaulter be declared within two years from the time of such promise, the property so refunded being applied to liquidate the claims of the subsequent creditors. This Rule is aimed at "artificial solvency" and, of course, put an end to the practice here whereby an insolvent broker continues to do business after adjusting his liabilities by means of promissory notes.

(e) A defaulter in order to be eligible for re-election has to disclose the name of every principal indebted to him and also deliver to the Official Assignees of the Stock Exchange, or to his creditors, his original books and accounts and a statement of the sums owing to and by him in the Stock Exchange at the time of his failure.

(f) The enforcement of the Articles of Association when revised.

The Committee of each Exchange ought not to be disproportionate in size to the number of members. It is difficult to see why more than four members at the outside are required. This Committee should be re-elected yearly and should enforce strictly the Rules of the Exchange. Instead of waiting until definite complaints are formulated the Committee should, if there

are persistent rumours that a member of the Exchange is insolvent or has committed a breach of the rules, investigate the matter. In such cases the member's books should be inspected by the Committee if considered necessary. The Committee should deal severely with all cases where it is satisfied that a member has been over-speculating on his own account, that is, entering into commitments which he cannot finance if he loses. The proceedings of the Committee should be formal and evidenced by proper minutes.

## (iii)—Admission of Members.

Committees ought in future to exercise much greater caution in admitting members. The attitude of the Exchanges in the past, with the exception perhaps of the Hongkong Stock Exchange, appears to have been that anybody could become a member if he could buy a seat and pay his entrance fee and subscription. Little attention appears to have been paid to his real financial position or to his sense of moral responsibility. It might be said that the price of the seat was a guarantee of his financial soundness but in certain cases the money in question has been all that the intending member possessed and in others even that money has been borrowed. Here also the Rules of the London Stock Exchange might with advantage be copied. Under Rule 35 a candidate for membership has to state in writing his personal history and occupation or employment since he came of age.

## (iv)—Authorized Clerks.

No member should be allowed to employ an authorized clerk unless the clerk in question has been approved by the Committee. Rules 38 to 42 of the London Stock Exchange on this subject might with great advantage be adopted by the local Exchanges. There are instances of irresponsible and untrustworthy persons who have been employed by certain brokers and have caused loss both to brokers and clients by reckless dealing.

(v)—Broking as distinct from Jobbing. In this Colony the same person acts both as broker and as jobber and it does not seem practicable to insist that he shall not exercise both functions as the volume of business is too sufficiently large to enable him to be divided up. It is however imperative in the interests of the public that if a broker is dealing on his own account he should disclose the fact to his client and charge no brokerage. Non-disclosure gives the client a legal right to repudiate the transaction but there are few who know this. The Exchanges ought to have a rule on the subject and see that it is strictly enforced.

A broker ought also to be compelled to disclose whether the transaction is one directly between two principals or through the medium of another broker.

## (vi)—Internal management of the Exchanges.

The procedure of the Exchanges ought to be regulated by proper rules. The greater number of the Rules of the London Stock Exchange are concerned with the internal management of settlements so as to ensure that these will pass smoothly. None of the local Exchanges has adequate rules on the subject. Almost all their procedure is informal and in the case of disputes there is nothing beyond the mere opinion of the Committee to decide who is right and who is wrong. In particular there are no rules defining what is a Settlement Day, its duration and whether it can be postponed, and no rules as to the working of the very complicated "ticket" system.

## (vii)—The List of Quotations.

The "Sales" column of the daily quotation list ought to include only transactions which are definitely authenticated. At present there is nothing to prevent the insertion of bogus quotations.

## (viii)—Advertisements.

No member of an Exchange should be allowed to issue a circular or advertisement to persons other than his own principals.

## (ix)—Margin.

In view of the fact that in Hongkong brokers guarantee all transactions, it seems eminently desirable that there should be a rule in all the Exchanges whereby a broker is required to obtain from his client, at the time when any forward contract is made, a deposit equal to ten per cent. of the amount of the contract plus brokerage and stamp duty and to require a further deposit if the price drops to near the ten per cent. margin. The broker should be required forthwith to pay this money to the Committee of the Exchange and obtain a numbered receipt for it which he should at once send to the client. It has been stated by one of the witnesses and supported by another that the majority of the members of the Hongkong Stock Exchange are of opinion that this proposal "will hamper forward business to such a considerable extent as practically to cripple it and without forward business it will be impossible to keep the market up." This is an unsatisfactory point of view. What seems to be of importance is not "keeping the market up" but ensuring that business shall only be entered into by persons who can honour their obligations. No doubt the "margin" rule would destroy a certain amount of forward business but only the unsound portion of it, that is, the business of persons who have no money with which to honour their bargains. The man who is able to pay if he loses should not object to depositing a margin.

(Continued on next Column).

## WAICHOW AFTERMATH.

## THE REDS' CASUALTIES.

BY A CHINESE CORRESPONDENT.

According to an officer just returned from Waichow it is said that the casualties of the Red Army during the recent battle were about 1,300. Among those killed were one Brigadier-General, three majors, 17 N.C.O.s and 430 privates. There were also a number of strikers killed and wounded but the exact number could not be ascertained. Apart from a few killed when actually engaged in directing operations, most of the Russian officers were unhurt, being engaged in the mountain batteries at Fee Ngor Leng some long distance away from the front line.

## DEMOLITION OF WAICHOW CITY WALL.

It is reported that at a meeting held on the 17th instant at the Headquarters at Shangkung a resolution has been passed for the total demolition of the walls of Waichow City. A telegram has been sent to the Military Council at Canton with a request that the Strike Commission be approached for the enlistment of 1,000 strikers to undertake the work. It is said that the Strike Commission have acceded to the request and preparations are being made to despatch all available strikers to Waichow in the course of the next few days.

## BARBERS AT VARIANCE.

## SEQUEL TO UNPAID WAGES DURING STRIKE.

At the Summary Court yesterday before Mr. Justice Wood, a Chinese barber, named Chiu Hing, claimed \$54.25 as wages due from the San Sik Barbers' Firm of Praya East.

Mr. W. H. Hind was for plaintiff, whilst Mr. C. A. S. Russ was for the defendants.

Plaintiff said that he was formerly employed with the defendant firm as a barber. An uncle of his was a managing partner. His (plaintiff's) wages were \$18.50 per month but he had not been paid any wages from the first day of the 5th moon to the 15th day of the 8th moon when he was dismissed. The reason tendered by the defendants for not giving him his wages was that his uncle had overdrawn his wages and that he should therefore repay the amount.

Cross-examined by Mr. Russ, plaintiff said that his uncle was now in Canton whether he had gone at the beginning of the strike, after a letter had been received from the Hui Yag Kwai work barbers' union intimating that work should cease. Plaintiff stayed because he was not a member of any guild. During the first ten days of the strike he was in the shop but no customers came in.

Mr. Russ: Did all the Chinese grow beards during the strike?

Plaintiff: Nearly all our business was done with Europeans.

One of the partners of the firm, giving evidence for the defence, stated that an agreement had been made during the strike, whereby it had been decided that no wages would be paid, but that the partners and foks would share the profits. He stated further that this was the system under which all barber shops were run in the Colony during the strike. Questioned by His Lordship he admitted that the plaintiff had none of the profits. Judgment with costs was given for plaintiff.

## H.K.V.D. CORPS.

Advice was received from Volunteer Headquarters last evening that owing to certain unavoidable delays the Corps Orders for the week could not be prepared for publication, as usual, this morning.

They will, therefore, be published tomorrow (Saturday) morning.

## (x)—Deposits by Brokers.

The requirement of a compulsory deposit by a broker would be some sort of a guarantee of his financial soundness. We do not recommend insistence on such a rule provided the margin rule under (ix) is rigidly enforced.

## (xi)—The number of Exchanges and licensing of share brokers.

Opinion among us is divided as to whether it is desirable or not to have more than one Exchange in Hongkong for dealings in stocks and shares, and, as things are, the difficulties in the way of amalgamating the existing Exchanges are so great that we cannot recommend any change. Legally there is nothing to prevent individuals forming Associations of Limited Companies for the purpose of dealing in any commodity and it does not seem reasonable to attempt to restrict them from doing so for the purpose of dealing in stocks and shares. For the same reason it seems to be unnecessary to require share brokers to be licensed. If, however, the Exchanges do not proceed to adopt the recommendations made in this report or, having adopted them, do not take measures to enforce them, we consider that the Government might proceed to enact legislation of the kind indicated in paragraph 17. Such legislation should give the Court power to dissolve any Association of the kind referred to if, on the application of the Attorney-General, the Court is satisfied that the rules have been persistently disregarded.

19.—We wish to thank the gentlemen who have submitted memoranda for the consideration of the Commission. These memoranda, especially the one drawn up by Mr. J. P. Braga, contain valuable information which has been of great use to us.

20.—We desire also to express our appreciation of the manner in which the Secretary, Mr. W. J. O'Grady, has performed his duties, and of the work done by the shorthand writers, Mr. Gelling and Mr. Paddyday.

## PROPERTY SALES.

Yesterday there were four property sales:

Mr. A. G. da Rocha conducted two ad his sales-rooms. The first leasehold property he put up was No. 311, Pokfulam Road, which was disposed of in one lot. The property, which was sold by order of the mortgagees, contains in the whole an area of 2,807.80 square feet and is held under a Crown Lease for the residue of 99 years from January 30th, 1892, subject to the payment of the sum of \$18.49, a proportion of the yearly Crown rent.

Started at \$22,000, bids of \$200 and \$300 advanced this to \$23,000, at which figure it was knocked down to Mr. Chung King Shau.

The second leasehold property disposed of is situated at No. 136 and No. 138, Wellington Street, and was sold by order of the mortgagees. The area is 1,227 square feet and is also held under a Crown lease. The annual Crown rent is \$5-6-6.

This property was started at \$30,000 and bidding of \$200 and \$300 brought this up to \$36,300 from which, with a bid of \$800, it was advanced to \$37,000. When the sum of \$39,500 had been reached another bid of \$800 brought the figure to \$40,000. Two further bids of \$300 and \$200 brought the sum to \$41,000, at which figure it was knocked down to Mr. Chung King Shau.

At the China Auction Rooms, Mr. E. V. M. R. de Sousa disposed of leasehold property containing Nos. 128, 130, and 132, Wellington Street. The annual Crown rent is \$27.03 and the area 1,917 square feet.

The starting price was \$40,000 and this was advanced by \$500 and \$1,000 bids to \$42,000 at which figure Mr. Te Shi became the purchaser.

At Messrs. Lammet Brothers auction rooms Nos. 434, 436, 438 and 440, Nathan Road, Kowloon were put up in four lots, by order of the mortgagees. As the reserve price on them were not reached, they were withdrawn.

## PEASANTS AND PICKETS.

## STORY OF FIGHT AT TAIPING.

It is being reported that a serious conflict occurred recently between peasants and pickets at Taiping Market in the course of which, four picket men were killed and 37 wounded, whilst the peasants had no casualties.

The story goes, that as a fishing junk loaded with salt came alongside the Taiping bridge, a strong picket seized the junk. The junkmen were aided by the inhabitants in repelling the pickets who were eventually defeated. The inhabitants were members of the Peasants' Volunteers.

When a report was made to the Canton Government, a company of cadets was despatched to Taiping, and the chief and assistant in command of the Peasants' Volunteers were detained.

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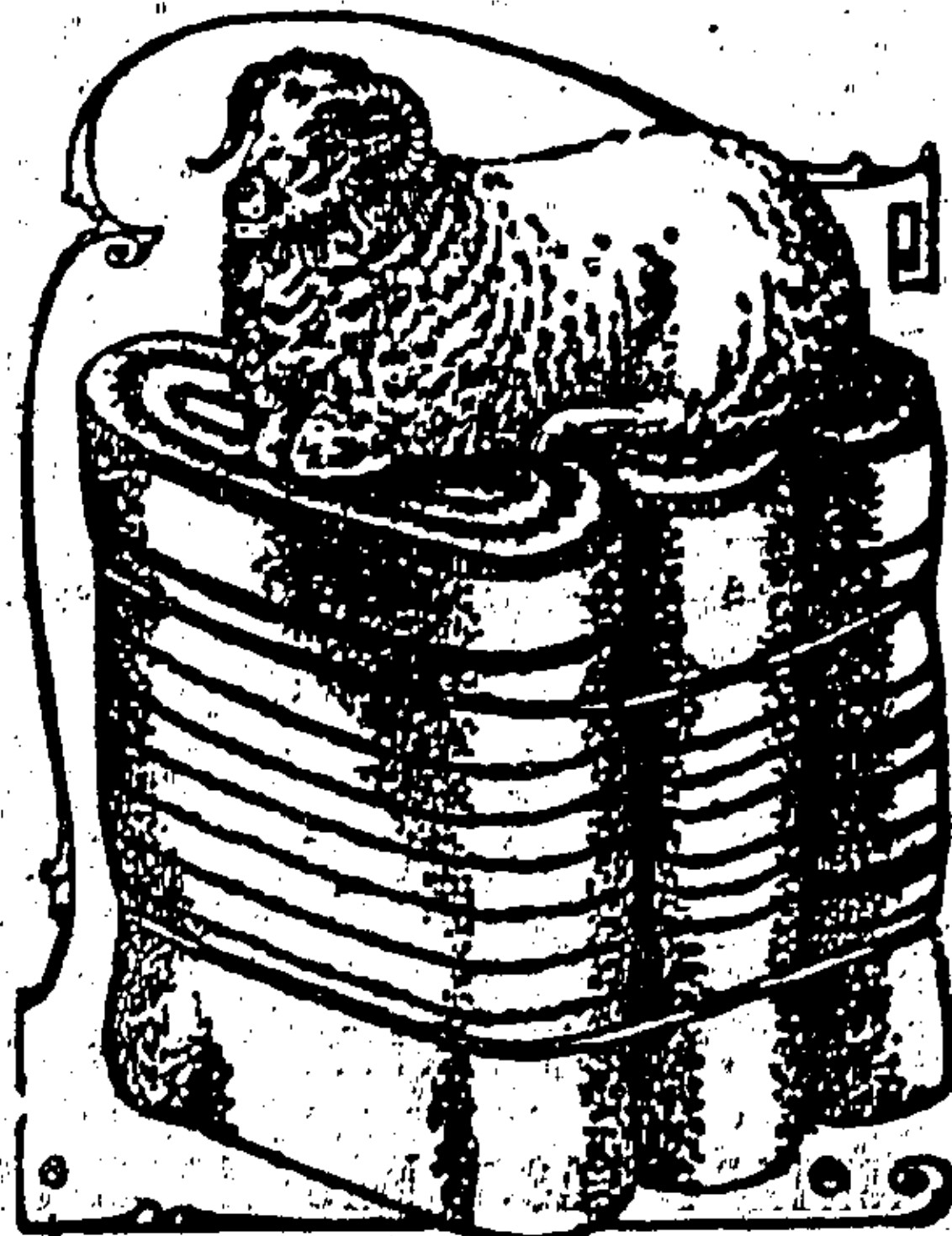
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**THE BUDGET PASSED.**

COMMENTS AND CRITICISMS BY UNOFFICIAL  
MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

**THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY.**

**STRONG FAITH IN THE FUTURE PROSPERITY OF THE COLONY.**

The fact that most members attended themselves in formal business dress—top hat and tail coat—for the meeting of the Legislative Council yesterday afternoon was evidence that the gathering was regarded as one of unusual importance. The business lasted over two hours. During that time the Budget for 1926 was passed and both H.E. The Governor and the Colonial Secretary took formal leave of the Council. It is probably unique in the history of the Colony that both the Governor and Colonial Secretary should end their term of office simultaneously. As is known, His Excellency goes to take up the Governorship of Jamaica. The Colonial Secretary is leaving on retirement from the Service, having spent fourteen years in the Colony during which period he has taken part in twelve Budget debates and introduced the estimates as Officer Administering the Government on three occasions, 1914, 1916 and 1923. There was a full attendance of members, Colonel C. Russell Brown, D.S.O., taking the oath of office and assuming the place of H.E. The General Officer Commanding the Troops, Major-General C. C. Luard, who is on leave.

**BUDGET DEBATE.**

At the conclusion of the opening routine business, the Colonial Secretary moved the second reading of the Bill intituled: An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding \$18,767,777 to the Public Service of the year 1926.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

HON. MR. P. H. HOLYOAK.

Hon. Mr. P. H. HOLYOAK: Your Excellency, it will perhaps be useful in discussing the Draft Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 1926, if in the first place I deal with Your Excellency's speech introducing the Budget before discussing in detail such points as appear to us to call for further explanation or special reference. To commence with, we should like to congratulate you, Sir, on the extremely able and comprehensive survey of the past year and the present situation, as well as upon the statesmanlike budgeting which we have learned from successive budgets, and the difficulties of attempting any accurate forecast for the coming year, it has naturally been a relief to hear that "for the present, at any rate, the right course is to reduce expenditure rather than to increase income" and that, therefore, you do not think it necessary to provide for additional direct taxation for the present. We were glad to hear from Your Excellency that the Colony's revenue is already showing signs of improvement.

We most fully endorse Your Excellency's statement that "you cannot believe that the intelligent people of Kwangtung—a race which has been famous for centuries for commercial ability and practical sense—can be content much longer to put up with the oppression of a regime imposed from outside and supported by mercenaries from other provinces," and we believe that the traditional sound common sense of the people of Kwangtung, as well as the old-time, deeply sincere friendship between the Cantonese officials and people and the British Government and its citizens residing in Hongkong and China must before long reassess themselves, and conditions become once more normal for them and us. It is perhaps fitting at this stage to express the fervent hope that the Conference about to commence in Peking will materially assist in reinstating normal relations with China.

**BUDGET DETAILS.**

Turning now to the details of the Budget, we note for the first time that all junior clerks now come under the definite heading of "Junior Clerical Service." Whilst appreciating the explanation that this has been done for the sake of economy in time and labour, we are not fully satisfied that it is not preferable to debit these salaries to the various departments concerned, that we may arrive at definite knowledge of the cost of running each department.

**TRADE STATISTICS.**

We note that a substantial saving, estimated at \$44,000, is to be made by the abandonment of the Statistical Department of the Imports & Exports Office, and I have been asked to make representations that this would be a very retrogressive step, and that it should be avoided if at all possible. Personally speaking, I cannot imagine why this particular department has proved so expensive to run hitherto, and possibly upon reconsidering the matter, it may be found that it can still be carried on though at a far lower cost.

**POLICE FORCE.**

We most cordially endorse your high appreciation of the zealous services of the Police Force during the trying period through which we have passed and would associate with them, both the Police Reserve and the Volunteers, not forgetting the wonderful voluntary service rendered by a very large section of the entire community, Chinese and Foreign alike, to maintain the essential services and normal life of the Colony. Indeed, thanks to the united efforts of all, so normal have things been kept to the casual eye that visitors arriving in the Colony have failed to realise, at first, that there was anything abnormal. Nor would I pass from this subject without a sincere and cordial tribute to the magnificent and heroic services rendered by the Fire Brigade and the Police, as well as by the St. John's Ambulance Brigade during the horrors of the recent Po Hing Fong collapse.

**PUBLIC WORKS.**

We regret the necessary postponement of the work on the new prison on the Kowloon side and hope in the meantime that the noticeable reduction in crime and therefore the strain upon the accommodation of our present prison will continue to be experienced. In this connection there can be little doubt that the recent

house to house visitations of the Police and Military have had a most salutary and wholesome effect, and we suggest that these might be, with advantage, still carried on, from time to time. It is welcome news that the new Kowloon Hospital is to be opened at last and that the equally delayed Saiyungpun School is within sight of being opened. With regard to the postponement of some portion of the public works which it was intended to carry on, and more especially road improvements and developments, whilst fully appreciating the wisdom of "going slow" for the time being, it is our opinion that too drastic cuts are not advisable or necessary and that sufficient work should anyhow be continued to justify the carrying on of your present staffs. Unless there are clear indications of Departments being seriously over-staffed, whilst upon this subject I may add that we are in agreement with the principle of staff reductions where possible, but not at the expense of sending Home qualified Staff Officers, who, within 12 months, might have to be indentured for again, and we are sufficiently optimistic of the future of this Colony to believe that you are justified in taking a risk in this connection. We should like to be assured that the water schemes in view will be pressed forward and especially that the mechanical filters at Bowen Road will not be dropped but installed at the earliest possible moment, in order that we may have the benefit of proved experience similar to that already gained in the Taikoo Sugar Refinery. And we shall be glad to know whether they have been definitely ordered and, if so, what system has been adopted.

**MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS.**

We have noted both from the estimates and from your own speech, Sir, that no provision has been made in connection with re-equipping the Military Establishments and that you have reluctantly been obliged to notify the Secretary of State for the Colonies that we cannot take any further steps in the matter. We presume from this that the "Oakley Award" was not definitely accepted by the War Office and that there is, therefore, no obligation upon the Colony. Certainly, in view of the tremendous fall in land value, should the necessity arise at a later period, we may be able to come to more satisfactory terms than were possible at the time of Sir John Oakley's visit which coincided with the highest land boom the Colony has ever known.

**PORT DEVELOPMENT.**

We have been impressed with the heavy cost of the "Port Development Department" in comparison with the amount of work to be carried out, but it is the unanimous opinion of my colleagues that it would be an economy again to merge this Department with General Public Works Department, with the Director of Public Works in charge. We should further be interested in hearing whether the Government has yet formed any clear opinion as to a definite scheme for port development.

**QUESTION OF LOANS.**

We are glad to find that Your Excellency is so wholeheartedly in favour of financing Public Works Extraordinary by separate short term loans—a policy which has been consistently advocated by Unofficial Members of the Council, especially by myself, for several years past. Nevertheless, we agree with you, Sir, that the times are not propitious for raising money for Port Development or for Public Works Extraordinary by loans at the present time, but this should certainly be kept in mind.

It is fitting I should here refer to the generous and prompt response of His Majesty's Government to the appeal for financial assistance by this Colony, and to the very excellent effect it immediately had in restoring confidence and further our high appreciation of the neighbourly assistance offered by the Straits Government in this connection, which has profoundly impressed the entire community of this Colony.

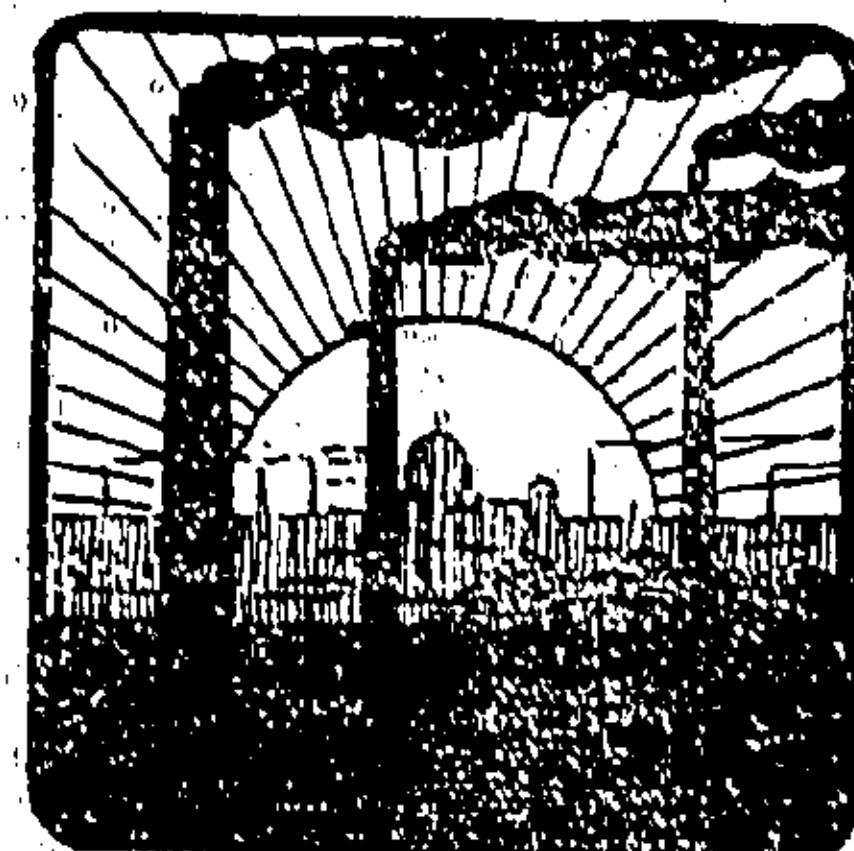
**HAWKERS' LICENCES.**

I pass now to more detailed reference and discussion of the "Draft Estimates" and in the first place I note that Hawkers' Licences have been reduced by \$10,000—and trust that this does not mean that fewer licences are being issued, more especially in view of the services which hawkers rendered to us during the earlier days of the strike. If a policy of reduction has been adopted I take this opportunity of placing on record the disagreement of the Unofficial Members.

**FOOT NOTES.**

On page 11 there are large increases in rents of Government property, which are entirely unexplained by foot-notes. I may add that throughout the estimates this year there is, in relation to large sums budgeted for, a want of foot-notes, which in the past have been freely given.

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**REFUSE DESTROYERS.**

Under the heading of "Sanitary Department" Page 32, there is an item for an additional "refuse barge" at a cost of \$10,000. We have before this, and on more than one occasion, advocated employment of refuse destroyers. The experience of the last few months have confirmed the opinion which we have advocated, formerly, and we are unanimously of the opinion that three refuse destroyers should be ordered, one for use as each end of the town and one for Kowloon. With regard to the removal of nightsoil, we would draw attention to the complaints which have been made from Wanchai and enquire how much longer the disturbed conditions of the Praya Road are likely to continue and whether temporary arrangements cannot be improved, so that sanitary work may be carried on without causing a serious nuisance. On Page 79, under the Public Works Department the item of \$222,111—showing an increase of \$44,111—for "total other charges" seems to call for some further explanation, and is another instance of want of sufficient foot-notes.

**UPKEEP OF CARS.**

We should also like to know why the upkeep of motor lorries and cars has increased from \$11,000 to \$25,000 and at the same time we would enquire whether in view of the number of motor cars and transport lorries now being used by the Government Departments, there is, in the employ of the Government, a qualified Garage Manager and Mechanic who is responsible for overseeing this work, and whether the Government has considered an organised repair shop in view of the large capital sums now invested in these vehicles and the Fire Department.

I notice that on Page 83, under the heading of "Public Works Extraordinary" no revised estimated figures for 1925 are given, either on that page or succeeding pages, making any criticisms of comparative figures impossible, and difficult as I can understand it is to estimate at present, it occurs to me that some fairly reliable figures could and should have been put in for guidance.

**CHARITABLE SERVICES.**

Under the head of "Charitable Services" and the sub-head "Grants in aid of Charitable Institutions," Page 107, my colleagues and I are unanimously of the opinion that a supplementary vote of \$5,000—increasing it from \$2,000 to \$5,000—annually, might fittingly be made to the "Alice Memorial and its Affiliated Hospitals," which are doing, as your Excellency well knows, magnificent work amongst the poorer Chinese, and have done for many years past, and more especially do I venture to appeal for this because this Hospital has been more seriously hit than many other institutions by the financial conditions in the Colony and the unfortunate death of our lamented colleague Mr. Chau Siu Ki, who was one of its most ardent and generous supporters. I understand it was the intention of the hospital to increase its accommodation to cope with the growing need for additional beds but this has had to be abandoned for the present. I need scarcely remind you, Sir, that the institution provides an excellent training school for midwives for Government purposes. As Chairman of the Hospital for many years I can assure you that the unanimous recommendations of my colleagues are worthy of the Government's support.

We congratulate you on the very satisfactory arrangements made in connection with the John C. Kerr Hospital, Canton, for the treatment of mental cases. The fine work of this institution is unanimously and highly appreciated by us all and for many years past has been of immense service to this Government.

**PREVENTION OF PIRACY.**

Whilst regretting it has been necessary to abandon the four armed "Patrol launches" which were manned by the Navy, we realise the necessity for this and have always considered that this protection should have been afforded by and is rightly chargeable to the Admiralty. We therefore hope your appeal to the Secretary of State that the heavy sums expended on these launches, by the Colony, should be repaid to us by the Admiralty since they were incurred in connection with the suppression and prevention of piracy which is and always has been considered essentially the work of the Navy.

**THE FUTURE.**

I am one of those, Sir, who have absolute faith, that, notwithstanding temporary setbacks, this Colony has a far greater future ahead of it than anything it has known in the past. Your whole administration here proves that you too have held that view and you have impressed us all by your wide views of the future and liberal preparation therefor. Someday we hope Lady Stubbs and you will be able to re-visit Hongkong and see the realized plans and visions of to-day.

**HON. MR. CHOW SHOU SON.**

Hon. Mr. CHOW SHOU SON: Sir, My honourable senior colleague has fully and ably represented the collective views of the unofficial members on the Budget, and it now remains for me to touch upon a few points affecting the Chinese alone.

**HAWKERS' LICENCES.**

My Chinese colleague and I strongly urge that the number of hawkers' licences should not be further reduced. Last year I drew the attention of the Government to the matter, and I then said that in view of the urban area, having recently been greatly extended, the number of licences might safely be somewhat increased. I also said that one effect of too drastic a restriction was to lead boys to break the law by hawking without a licence, as they must support themselves or assist their parents; and another effect—a much worse one—was to drive such boys into the streets, to get into mischief, soon or late. We hope that the reduction in the estimates by \$10,000 is due to causes other than the intended reduction of these licences.

**POLICE FORCE.**

I desire, on behalf of the Chinese community, to associate ourselves with Your Excellency's commendation of the splendid work of our Police Force. They must have passed through very difficult times, and they have discharged their arduous duties with tact and efficiency. The work of our Volunteers and Police Reserves was also valuable, and has been much appreciated by the community.

**VERNACULAR EDUCATION.**

I understand that while I was in England the Hon. R. H. Kotewall took up with the Government the question of improving our system of vernacular education, and it is a great satisfaction to me to see that provision has been made in these estimates for the establishment of a Vernacular Middle School at Saiyungpun. It is the opinion of many Chinese who have made some study of the subject, that there should be a graduated system of schools reaching up from the vernacular school to the Chinese middle school, and on to an enlarged and improved department of Chinese study in the University. In such a system great stress should, we think, be laid on the ethics of Confucianism which is, in China, the greatest force for good. Any money which the Government may spend in this direction would, in our opinion, be money well spent; and also constitute social insurance of the best kind.

**THE COLONY'S VITALITY.**

In presenting the Budget, Your Excellency asked for the support of the unofficial members for your policy of economy. I need hardly say that my Chinese colleague and I support Your Excellency most heartily. Last year, when the estimates were before this Council, we urged that strict economy should be exercised in all directions, so that, as T. said at the time: when the rainy day came, as it was bound to come soon or late, we might be able to face the financial situation with equanimity. But our advocacy of thrift does not mean that we have lost faith in the Colony. Like other English colleagues, the Hon. Mr. Kotewall and I are firm believers in the Colony's vitality and its future. We believe that the cloud which is temporarily darkening our sky will, as must, one day roll away, when the sun will again smile upon a happy day.

In conclusion, I should like to congratulate Your Excellency upon the very able manner in which you have presented to us what must be one of the most difficult Budgets that a Governor of this Colony has been called upon to prepare. I sincerely hope that you will soon have the gratification and pleasure of seeing that your policy in regard to our finances has been completely justified by results. As this would be the last occasion on which the Hon. Colonial Secretary would be associated with our Budget, I should also like to take this opportunity to express appreciation of the courtesy and ability with which he, both as Colonial Secretary and as Officer Administering the Government, always participated in the discussions in connection with the subject.

**HON. MR. H. W. BIRD.**

Hon. Mr. H. W. BIRD: Sir, I wish to endorse fully the remarks that have fallen from the Acting Senior Unofficial Member who has dealt with the larger matters at issue. As regards my further comments they represent my personal views which may or may not have the approval of my colleagues.



## LICENCES.

Under the heading of Licences, I suggest that the Government should bring pressure to bear so that the ferry service to Kowloon, Yau Ma Tei, and Sham Shui Po, is run considerably later at night. The Chinese are notorious for keeping late hours, and one of their reasons for not residing in the suburbs is the difficulty of transport. These remarks apply equally to the low level tramway; if the trams and ferries were arranged to run up till 2 o'clock in the morning I feel sure the strain on the housing accommodation in the centre of the City would be found to be considerably relieved. One cannot expect people to live in the outlying districts unless transportation is made easy for them.

## LAND SALES.

Regarding the Building Covenants with respect to Land Sales which may be falling due for fulfilment, I would suggest that in view of the tightness of money at the moment, owners should be dealt with leniently and extended time given for completion. It seems to me a wiser policy to have the Building Covenant carried out even at a somewhat later date than to re-enter on the land.

## VIRG BRIGADE.

In infer, Sir, from your remarks in your speech that you consider the personnel of the Virg Brigade to be sufficient. In view of the fact that the work of the Brigade is practically divided in two by the Harbour, and that fires about have also to be dealt with, I regret that my views do not coincide with your Excellency's. One Superintendent and two Station Officers are estimated for, presumably one for Hong Kong and one for Kowloon; besides these there are 10 Sub-Officers who, I understand, are not Europeans. Should the Station Officer be sick the control of a fire must be taken over by one of these Sub-Officers.

## POLICE.

Under this Section there appears to be no item of expenditure in connection with the upkeep of the "essential services" register. May be it is covered by some other charges. If this is not the case I would urgently request that this register be kept continually up to date, and I feel sure that in view of the crisis through which we have passed employers of labour will gladly afford all the assistance possible by supplying the information required. Nothing can be truer than the adage "to be prepared for war is the best security for peace," and I know from personal experience what an asset that register was of late, and if continually kept up to date it can be even more so should circumstances require its use again in the future. Whilst on this subject may I specially endorse my honourable Colleague's remarks on the good work lately performed by all the volunteer workers—Military, Police and Civilian alike.

## MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

Under Miscellaneous Services are to be found various sums allocated for a number of highly useful purposes and I would suggest that the Government renders assistance—not necessarily monetary—but by free grants of land in the New Territory for experimental farming—cattle, chicken and vegetable in order that we as a Colony may be more self-contained and less dependent on others for our fresh food supply. There are thousands of acres of suitable land there which could be utilized for this purpose, and I believe if the Government were to show its sympathy in such enterprise the pioneers would be forthcoming.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Last year I drew attention to the entire lack of any attempt to indicate clearly the names of our streets. When later on I was asked to inspect some sample labels I had hope that action was about to be taken. On enquiry as to why nothing further had been done, information is given me that this very necessary work has now been cancelled, or at any rate postponed. It is inconceivable that the few thousand dollars involved would embarrass the Government, and I would ask that this work be proceeded with. Perhaps the twelve thousand dollars to be spent on the Geological Survey could be utilized for this purpose.

It is satisfactory to note that money is to be spent on more efficient lighting throughout the Colony, and it is to be hoped this work will be carried out without delay. Whilst on the subject of lighting may I suggest that the big banyan trees in Nathan Road be removed and replaced by small and more suitable trees. The cutting down of any trees is to be deprecated unless absolutely necessary, but these banyan trees, fine though they are in themselves, are unsuitable for lining roads. They grow too quickly and their roots spread too widely. The trees in question have grown to such an extent that they meet in the middle and entirely hide some of the street lamps. Moreover, they encroach to a considerable extent on the roadway.

No item appears to be allotted to the improvement of the road to Taiipo, where there are several bridges which are positively dangerous to motor traffic. Let us hope no serious accident occurs before these bridges are widened and the approaches improved.

## SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

On many occasions the Unofficials of this Council have urged the adoption of refuse destructors, and I am glad to hear my honourable Colleagues pressing the matter again. We have been told in the past that these contrivances are not suitable for Hong Kong. You will pardon me, Sir, if I say that answer does not satisfy me. I have it on good authority that these destructors are used to very good purpose elsewhere, and we should give them a trial. Mechanical contrivances of all description should be employed where possible so as to eliminate the human element as much as possible.

I am afraid, Sir, that none of my remarks suggest retrenchment, my excuse being that I cannot see that the financial situation is such as to necessitate applying the axe to works which are urgently required. In your Budget speech last year, Sir, you stated that you saw no necessity to maintain our balance at a higher figure than five million dollars. Our estimated balance at the end of this year is five million three hundred and fifty-five thousand. The maxim of cutting ones coat according to the cloth in hand is sound provided there is no more cloth available. This, however, does not appear to me to be the case. It is my opinion that the new assessment of the Colony, if efficiently carried out will produce a bigger increase than has been allowed for. "Land sales" is admittedly a difficult item to estimate, but with trade resumed I believe there will be fresh application for land coming in almost immediately. This Colony has been fairly struck below the belt, but we have not been "knocked out" or even nearly so, and, therefore, it would seem there is no reason to display ourselves in garments too small for us.

## EDUCATION IN THE COLONY.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL: Sir, I should like to make a few remarks on the subject of education in this Council. Perhaps in the recent Bolshevik campaign, which has been engineered from Canton, and perhaps it would be more accurate to say from Moscow, nothing has more annoyed old residents, who have a real affection for this Colony and a firm belief in British fairplay, than the lying campaign of calumny which has misrepresented the British officials and the British business men of this Colony as riding rough shod over the rights of the Chinese and brutally, or imperialistically—for that is the favourite word—used—riding roughshod also over the rights of the Chinese here. Nothing could possibly be further from the truth. On the contrary the record of this Colony is one of sympathetic Government by three generations of hardworking officials of the highest integrity, and of friendly intercourse of three generations of British business firms with the Chinese in this Colony.

## SANCTUARY FOR CHINESE.

The wonderful prosperity which this Colony has attained and the manner in which Chinese have flocked here to do business, is a sufficient refutation of the gross slanders to which I have referred. Some years ago a former Land Officer of this Colony estimated that the Chinese owned fifteen-sixteenths of the landed property in this Colony, and it is a well known fact that their large land-owning still continues and also that they are the owners of a large proportion of the shares in our public companies. We have also the curious fact that the wives and families of some of the officials in Canton, who are now working against us, are actually receiving sanctuary here in our midst in this so-called imperialistic British Colony.

## STRIKING COMPARISONS.

I have in my hand a despatch of a former Governor, Sir William Des Vœux, dated October 31st, 1886, reporting to the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the condition and prospects of Hong Kong, and in that despatch he points out with pride that our revenue for 1885—one and a half million dollars—was larger than in any former year. In 1924 our revenue was about 24 million dollars. Another item which Governor Des Vœux mentions is land sale receipts which amounted to \$160,000 as against nearly three million dollars received in 1923, a bumper year. The population for 1885 he mentions as 100,000. Before the commencement of the recent unrest it was probably about 800,000.

## A WONDERFUL TRANSFORMATION.

In the concluding paragraph of his despatch, Sir William Des Vœux pointed out the wonderful transformation since we took over in 1840 of Hong Kong from "a bare rock, with a fisherman's hut here and there" to a wonderful and busy and prosperous shipping port. In the last paragraph of his despatch he says as follows:—

"Hong Kong has indeed changed its aspect; and when it is remembered that all this has been effected in Her Majesty's reign—and indeed during a space of less than fifty years on ground immediately contact with the most populous Empire in the world, by a comparatively infinitesimal number of an entirely alien race separated from their Homes by nearly the whole earth, and unlike their countrymen in Australia and Canada, living in an enervating and trying climate; and when it is further remembered that the Chinese, whose labour and enterprise under British auspices have largely assisted in this development, have been under no compulsion, but have come here as free men, attracted by liberal institutions, equitable treatment, and the justice of our rule; and when all this is taken into account, it may be doubted whether the evidence of material and moral achievement, presented as it were in a focus, make any sense where a more forcible appeal to eye and imagination, and whether any other spot on the earth is thus more likely to excite, or more fully justify pride in the name of Englishman."

## THE TASK FOR THE SCHOOLS.

The point that I wish to make now is that the Hong Kong Government ought to make it its business to teach in its schools and in the University, the wonderful growth and prosperity of this Colony, owing to its liberal institutions, its equitable treatment of, and justice to, all races, and, starting onward from Governor Des Vœux's despatch to the present day, to show how that same fair treatment of the Chinese has resulted in the immensely greater proofs of prosperity which are now before us to-day and which are the result of the cordial co-operation which has for so long existed and still exists between the British and Chinese in this Colony.—(Applause.)

## DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

The Director of Public Works: Sir, In reply to the speech of the Hon. the Senior Unofficial Member, it is much to be regretted that the work of strengthening main roads has had to be postponed, and in some cases the maintenance votes have had to be reduced. It will be readily understood that such postponement and reductions in regard to the upkeep of Main Roads cannot be permitted for any length of time without serious deterioration and the ultimate heavy expenditure that will be required to bring them back to the present standard.

Provision has been made for the continuation of work on all items of the Shing Mun Valley Scheme (part 1) estimated to cost \$4,500,000 and everything will be done to expedite this scheme, until the completion of which it will not be possible to do without the restriction of the water supply both at Hong Kong and Kowloon during periods in which there is an unusually distributed rain-fall.

## FILTER BEDS.

The Contract for the Bowen Road East Gravity Filtration Plant has been let to Messrs. Patterson Engineering Co. The contract price including shipment and erection is \$2,700. Reinforced concrete work and foundations will be extra. Drawings have not yet been received so that the cost for this work is not known. The contract is to be completed in 9 months. The capacity of the plant is three million gallons per day as compared with the output of the existing Bowen Road filter beds of 1 million.

The Eastern filter beds are nearing completion. The total number of these beds is 11, all of which have been constructed. Five are at present in use as filter beds giving approximately an output of 1½ million gallons; 2 are being used as ballast tanks and the remaining 4 are not yet in use. All the beds cannot be utilised as filter beds until the 5 million gallon Service Reservoir now in progress is completed.

## PRAYA ROAD EAST.

Mention has been made of the disturbed conditions of the Praya Road at Wanchai. Unfortunately the raising of all drains and sewers necessitated by the Praya East Reclamation has caused an upheaval of the roads in this District which has been complicated by the necessary removal of water mains, gas pipes, cables, etc. which had to be dealt with at the same time. As far as possible this unavoidable inconvenience to the public will be reduced to the minimum. The large open sewer running parallel with the old Praya wall is responsible for many of the complaints received, but this matter has now been referred to the Port Development Department and it is hoped the contractor responsible will be able to keep this drain in a more sanitary condition in future.

## MOTOR LORRIES AND CARS.

The increase referred to on page 79 showing an excess of estimated expenditure of \$44,311 for 1926 under the head of Other Charges over that of 1925 is chiefly accounted for by the four items:—  
Incidental expenses quarries..... \$7,500  
Upkeep of motor lorries and cars..... 14,000  
Upkeep of quarry plants..... 11,500  
Electric lights and fans..... 5,000

The two increased items for Incidental Expenses for Quarries and upkeep of Quarry Plant amounting to \$19,000 were inserted to meet expenditure at the New Quarry at Tai Kok Tsui which was required for supplying materials for the strengthening of the Kowloon Roads, but since the strengthening of these roads has been postponed the Quarry will not now be required and there will be a saving of this amount.

With regard to the item for Upkeep of Motor Lorries and Cars, the increase is provided to meet the upkeep of additional Lorries, etc., which are now more than double the number on hand at the commencement of this year. The remaining increase of \$5,000 is to meet the upkeep of the increased number of fans and lights principally in New Buildings such as the Fire Station, Saiyungpun School, Sisters' Quarters, etc., which are nearing completion.

Provision has been made under Item P.W.E. 14 for converting an open shed at Wanchai Depot into a temporary workshop for carrying out repairs to lorries and cars, and a mechanical engineer has arrived, and will be put in charge of this workshop. It is hoped that in the near future, this Department will have a large general workshop with a fully qualified mechanical engineer in charge, but at present only small repairs can be undertaken at the Wanchai Workshop.

## REVISED EXPENDITURE FOR 1925.

The estimated revised expenditure for 1925 was not inserted in the Draft Estimates for 1926 because of the difficulty of arriving at the amount with any degree of accuracy in consequence of:—  
(a) Labour troubles; (b) The necessity for economy; (c) Ascertaining what claims would have to be faced from contractors if contracts were to be interfered with. An approximate estimate has now been made of the amounts that will be expended during 1925 on such works as appear in the 1926 estimates and these figures will be included in the final print of the estimates for 1926.

These figures could not be made available in time for Hon. Members' reference when considering the Draft Estimates for 1926.

## STREET NAMES.

In reply to the Hon. Mr. Bird's remarks I would state: With regard to Street Name Plates, this work had to be postponed. The design of these name plates was decided upon in consultation with the Hon. Mr. H. W. Bird and approved by Government in April last, and 89 Street Name plates (50 in Kowloon and 39 in Hong Kong) would have been completed during this year. The preliminary work was in hand when the Strike prevented further progress. Since then, owing to retrenchment, all works not considered essential, and such works as could be cancelled without involving claims, have been stopped.

## TAIPO ROAD.

With regard to the dangerous bridges on the road referred to, an item was tentatively proposed to be included in the estimate for 1926 for this work, but, owing to retrenchment, it had to be postponed. The necessity of improving these bridges considered most essential together with the widening and improving approaches to them. The widening of the bridges between Castle Peak Taiipo Market has been taken in hand and should be completed by the end of next year.

## THEONIAL SECRETARY.

The THEONIAL SECRETARY: Before I proceed in any way to the comments estimates made by the Unofficial Members of Council, I would like to thank them, and especially the Senior Unofficial Member, for the personal references made in connection with Budget estimates. I think this is a fifth debate on the Budget of this year with which I have been associated. I have had the honour of introducing the estimates for the years 1914, 1921, 1923. The progress and development of the revenue of the Colony, and the Colony's general prosperity during early fourteen years since I came has, of course, been extraordinary, justifying to me and to the whole colony. I have watched the progress of this Colony with the very greatest interest and although there is a temporary slackening of that development I am satisfied that if I am able to do this Colony, even within a comparatively short time, I shall find all the works under contemplation, in full again and an ample revenue to make good for them. (Applause.)

## CLERICAL SERVICE.

I will turn to the remarks of the Senior Unofficial member which have, so far, not been replied to. With regard to the amounts for the Junior Clerical Service from the different departments at the end of the Estimates, this was pointed out by Your Excellency addressing the Council, as it meant that convenience when clerks are not from one department to another also gives the total cost of that service in a way which is desirable. I now know how much that service cost us. Last year it was proposed to make this change shortly before introduction of the Estimates, but I did it because I did not see how, in short period available, it could be done. I realised that it was in the right direction. I do not think there is any great magic in knowing much the clerks in one department in any one year, because you have clerks in lower grades one year in higher grades the next. A clerk grows up in the Service and reaches highest grade, but his successor may be a third class clerk although suitable for the position. The same would then be done at a lower rate. I cannot say that the clerical service department is going to cost so much more dollars and that it is necessary to spend that amount of money to get work done efficiently. If you get work done efficiently, he may get on from \$1,200 a year to \$3,000. He can do the same work because his knowledge is essential to that department, later on, when he is replaced on recent probably by someone else in that department, the whole cost is also without necessarily any reduction in efficiency.

## TRADE STATISTICS.

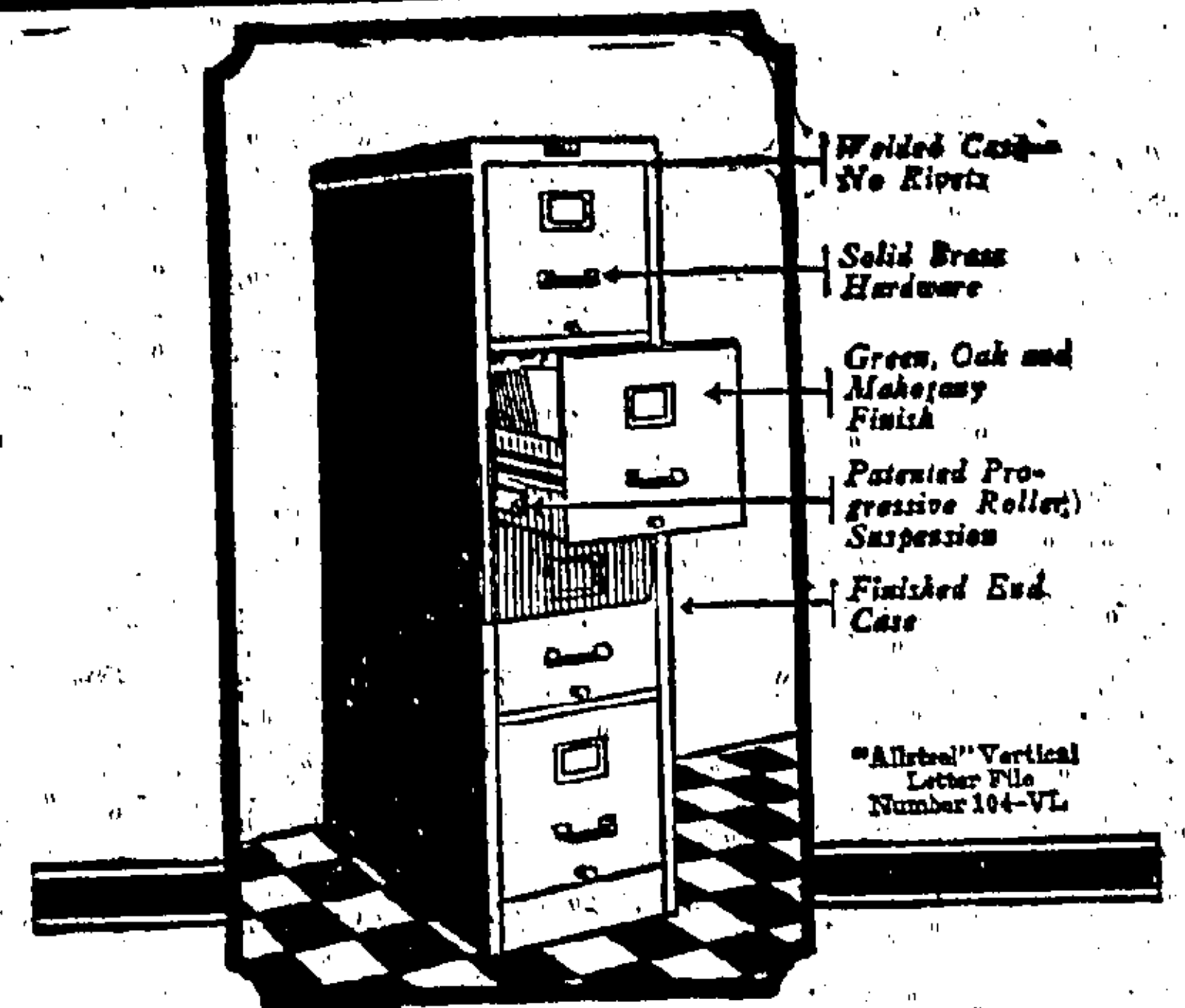
It is a matter of regret that the statistical department of the Imports and Exports Office has been for the time being closed. I may say—and I think the hon. Mr. Unofficial member knows—that there was no great enthusiasm shown by those for whom the returns were partly drawn up. If you enquired from Superintendent he will tell you that they were not regarded as of very great value, and although the trade of the Colony is doubtless whether these results are really correct. They were based on information supplied by ship-owners, they looked very nice and those persons who like to see everything organized to this extent will, perhaps, think it a loss that these returns are not available. The work to be done necessitated the employment of a great number of clerks at comparatively low salaries. It is practically a mechanical process and could not be done with less clerks than those employed. You either had to have them or none at all.

## LABOUR REGISTER.

With regard to the register, of the value of which hon. members have had practical experience, that will, of course, be maintained by the Police but it is not necessary to show any special sub-department for its work. An adequate staff will be kept register up-to-date because the Government and the community realise it is extremely valuable one, and experience has shown in what way it can be used so as to add to its use.

## REDUCTION OF STAFF.

It has been necessary, of course, in view of the economies which we hope to effect, to reduce to some extent the staff of our officers, particularly in the Public Works Department, but great care has been taken not to terminate the employment of any officers whose services may be required in the event of certain works being resumed. We have been particularly careful of that. It is extremely difficult to get sufficient officers for certain work, and, therefore, when we have them we do not want it to be disappointing to get rid of them. I can assure hon. members that great care has been taken in going through the establishment of any senior officer or European member unless it would be a waste of money to continue the question to some extent and have retained some officers whose services will only be required if it is resumed which at present does not appear in the estimates. (Continued on page 8.)



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This proven quality is worth much to buyers of office equipment yet Allsteel files cost no more than other equipment. Come in or phone for further information.

**GF Allsteel.**  
The Complete Line of Office Equipment

OFFICE EQUIPMENT DEPT.

LANE, CRAWFORD, LIMITED.

PHONE 4567.

## FORMOSA

MACHINE MADE BRICKS

The most ideal **BRICKS** unexcelled in DURABILITY AND EFFICIENCY.

Stocks carried

LEUNG HON-CHI,

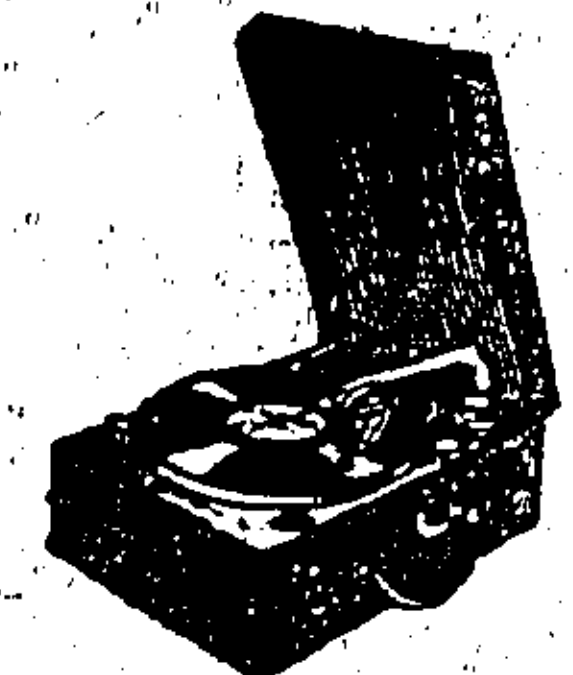
Agent.

39 and 31, Connaught Road Central.

Tel. C. 191.

(106)

## THE NEW "COLUMBIA" PORTABLE



ENGLISH

MODEL

FITTED WITH THE NEW NO. 7 SOUNDBOX

\$65.00

AT  
**ANDERSON'S.**

(76)

## W. POWELL, LTD.

## SPECIAL DISPLAY CHILDREN'S WEAR.

A VERY Dainty COLLECTION OF "THINGS TO WEAR" FOR THE CHILDREN.

Woolies that are light and warm.

Coats that are stylish and practical.

Hats that are dainty and becoming.

Prices that are most reasonable.

PLEASE CALL AND SEE THIS COLLECTION.



## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

## TO BE LET.

**BUNGALOW at CHEUNG CHAU** for 6 Months from 1st NOVEMBER.  
For Particulars and Orders to View, Apply to—  
DEACONS,  
Solicitors,  
1, Des Voeux Road, Central.  
[2799]

## GETZ BROS. &amp; CO. (OF THE ORIENT), LTD.

**TAKE NOTICE** that as from the Date hereof Mr. J. EDWARD ATHERLEY has CEASED to be employed as MANAGER of this Firm and his Power of Attorney has been REVOKED. Mr. T. L. PARK HURST has as from TO-DAY been appointed MANAGER in his stead.  
CHARLES J. KELLY,  
For Getz Bros. & Co. (of the Orient), Ltd.  
Dated 22nd October, 1925.  
[2800]

## HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

## NOTICE.

**IN** Deference to the opinion expressed in their Report by the STOCK AND SHARE COMMISSION questioning the advisability of keeping the Exchange closed for a Long Period it has been decided at an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of MEMBERS TO OPEN THE HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE on SATURDAY, the 24th inst. at 10 o'clock noon.  
By Order of the Committee,  
A. NISSIN,  
Secretary.  
[2801]

## BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES.

## PUBLIC AUCTION

## THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

SITUATE at YAU MATI in the Colony of Hong Kong and registered at the LAND OFFICE as Kowloon Island Lot No. 1443. Together with Two Buildings thereon in course of Construction at NATHAN ROAD.

## AND THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

SITUATE at HONGKONGTSUI in the Colony of Hong Kong and registered at the LAND OFFICE as THE REMAINING PORTION of Kowloon Island Lot No. 1884. Together with Eight Buildings thereon now known as Nos. 600 to 614, SHANGHAI STREET (Even Numbers).

## IN TWO LOTS

By Mr. E. V. M. R. DE SOUSA, Auctioneer,  
at  
THE CHINA AUCTION ROOMS,  
No. 4, DUNDRELL STREET, HONGKONG,  
ON  
FRIDAY, the 27th DAY of OCTOBER, 1925,  
at 3 o'clock P.M.

For further Particulars and Conditions of Sale, Apply to—  
Messrs. GEO. K. HALL BRUTON & CO.,  
Mortgagees' Solicitors,  
St. George's Building, Chater Road.  
OR TO—  
Mr. E. V. M. R. DE SOUSA,  
Auctioneer,  
No. 4, Dundrell Street.  
Dated the 23rd October, 1925.  
[2798]

## PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LTD.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a First Call of \$4.00 per share has been made upon all Members holding Shares upon which \$1 per share only has been already paid, and that the same will be Payable to the Bankers of the Company, HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION at Hong Kong, on or before the 2nd NOVEMBER, 1925.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,  
General Managers,  
Hong Kong, 23rd September, 1925. [2671]

## NOTICE.

## THE DAIRY FARM, ICE AND COLD STORAGE CO., LTD.

## NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

**THE TWENTY-NINTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING** of Shareholders in the above Company will be held at the Company's Town Office, 2, Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong, on SATURDAY, 24th OCTOBER, 1925, at Noon, for the purpose of presenting the Report of the Directors and Statement of Accounts to 31st July, 1925.

By Order of the Board,  
M. MANUK,  
Secretary.  
Hong Kong, 8th October, 1925. [2738]

## THE HONGKONG &amp; KOWLOON TAXICAB CO., LTD.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the SECOND ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS of the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON TAXICAB CO., LTD., will be held at the Office of the Company, 32nd & Des Voeux Road Central, on FRIDAY, the 30th DAY of OCTOBER, 1925, at 4 P.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors and a Statement of Account for the Year ended 30th April, 1925, and electing Directors and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, the 24th DAY of OCTOBER, 1925, until FRIDAY, the 30th DAY of OCTOBER, 1925, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,  
A. E. ROWE,  
Managing Director.  
Hong Kong, 21st October, 1925. [2794]

## INTIMATIONS

## HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

**THE HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of MEMBERS** will be held on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1925, at 5.30 P.M., in the Jockey Club Room, Hong Kong Club Annex.  
By Order,  
H. GREENWOOD,  
Acting Secretary.  
[2783]

## HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

**DRAFT PROGRAMMES and ENTRY FORMS** for the SEVENTH EXTRA RACE MEETING to be held on SATURDAY, 24th NOVEMBER, 1925 (Weather permitting), may be obtained at the Race Office, Hong Kong Club and Gateway Bay Stables.  
Entries will CLOSE at 10 o'clock noon, on SATURDAY, 24th OCTOBER, 1925. [2779]

## HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

**SEVENTH EXTRA RACE MEETING—NOVEMBER, 24th 1925.**  
5th RACE—STANLEY PLATE.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Conditions of this Race should read as follows:  
For "China" Ponies. Griffls of this year. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of two races 5 lbs. penalty; of three or more races 10 lbs. penalty. Non-winners allowed 5 lbs. Subscription Griffls of this year allowed 5 lbs. Jockey allowance. [2796]

## G. B.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

**PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS** of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on MONDAY, the 26th day of Oct., 1925, at 3 p.m., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Shaukiwan in the Colony of Hong Kong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

## PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

| No. of Lot                    | Boundary Measurements | Containing | Approx. | Upset Price |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|---------|-------------|
| Shaukiwan Island Lot No. 1884 | 100 ft. by 100 ft.    | 1.00       | 12      | 12          |
| As per scale plan.            |                       |            |         |             |

## G. B.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

**PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS** of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on MONDAY, the 26th day of October, 1925, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Mount Cameron in the Colony of Hong Kong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

## PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

| No. of Lot                 | Boundary Measurements | Containing | Approx. | Upset Price |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------|---------|-------------|
| Mount Cameron Lot No. 1884 | 100 ft. by 100 ft.    | 1.00       | 12      | 12          |
| As per scale plan.         |                       |            |         |             |

# "STRIKE SALE"

## HATS and FROCKS

### AT 25% DISCOUNT

#### OFF USUAL PRICES.

At the Sign of the Lantern.

12, PEDDER STREET  
TELEPHONE CENTRAL 4864. (FIRST FLOOR)

## PREPAID "WANTED" ADVERTISEMENTS

**GOVERNESS WANTED** to Three Little Boys. Telephone between 6 to 9 P.M. CENTRAL 4730. [130]

**FOUND**—Gold Watch at Repulse Bay. Apply Giving description to Mrs. G. M. Wolf, Repulse Bay Hotel. [131]

**FOR SALE**—PRINCE BABY CARRIAGE, together with a complete Nursery outfit. Recently arrived from the Treasury Co. Ltd. Reasonable Terms.—Apply Box No. 132, c/o Hong Kong Daily Press. [132]

## INTIMATION

## FOR SALE BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE.

## THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

SITUATE at YAU MATI in the DEPENDENCY, Kowloon and Colony of HONG KONG and known as

Section J of Kowloon Island No. 1, 1987. Together with the Premises thereon as No. 479, NATHAN ROAD, ATRI.

## TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION

ON WEDNESDAY, the 27th DAY of OCTOBER, 1925, at 3 o'clock P.M.

At No. 84, DUNDRELL STREET, HONGKONG.

THE AUCTIONEERING & ESTATE AGENTS, Co., Ltd., Auctioneers.

The Property consists of—

All that Piece or Parcel of Ground at YAU MATI in the DEPENDENCY, Kowloon and Colony of HONGKONG and registered in the LAND OFFICE as SECTION "K" No. 1087 with the Messuages, outbuildings thereon known as No. 479, NATHAN ROAD, YAU MATI. The Premises held for the Unexpired Residue of the term of 75 years (Renewable for a further term of 75 years) from 24th JUNE, 1900, by an Indenture of Crown Lease dated January 1901, and made between His Majesty KING EDWARD VII. of the United Kingdom and the HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT CO., LTD. of the other part. A Crown Rent: \$23.62. Area: 1,715 Square Feet.

For further Particulars apply to Messrs. JOHNSON, ST. & MASTER, Mortgagees' Solicitors, or to THE AUCTIONEERING & ESTATE AGENTS, Co., Ltd., Auctioneers, Hong Kong, 16th October, 1925. [2786]

## BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE.

## PUBLIC AUCTION

## THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

SITUATE at SHAMSHUIPO in the Colony of Hong Kong and registered at the LAND OFFICE as SECTION D of NEW KOWLOON ISLAND Lot No. 26. Together with the Building thereon now known as No. 36, LAI CHI KOK ROAD.

## AND THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

SITUATE at SHAMSHUIPO in the Colony of Hong Kong and registered at the LAND OFFICE as SECTION D of NEW KOWLOON ISLAND Lot No. 26. Together with the Building thereon now known as No. 36, LAI CHI KOK ROAD.

## IN TWO LOTS

By Mr. E. V. M. R. DE SOUSA, Auctioneer,  
at  
THE CHINA AUCTION ROOMS,  
No. 4, DUNDRELL STREET, HONGKONG,  
ON  
THURSDAY, the 27th DAY of OCTOBER, 1925,  
at 3 o'clock P.M.

For further Particulars and Conditions of Sale, Apply to—  
Messrs. GEO. K. HALL BRUTON & CO.,  
Mortgagees' Solicitors,  
St. George's Building, Chater Road.  
OR TO—  
Mr. E. V. M. R. DE SOUSA,  
Auctioneer,  
No. 4, Dundrell Street, Hong Kong.  
Dated the 15th October, 1925. [2794]

## HONGKONG SMALL INVESTORS' SHARE AND REAL ESTATE.

**HOUSES, FLATS, BUILDINGS, ESTATES** negotiated for E. Auction, or Private Sale. Management asked for Clients Proceeding Abroad. Terms: C. 4830, SMALL INVESTORS, 10, DUNDRELL ROAD.

## TO LET.

ON or About MARCH, 1926, 10 LE FLAT or SPACIOUS SUITE of OFFICES in the "FRENCH BUILDING" "VICTORIA BUILDING," No. 5, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL (between CHATER ROAD and MARSHALL STREET). Apply to—  
BANQUE DE L'INDOCHINE,  
Chater Road. [2797]

## TO LET.

**COMMODIOUS PREMISES** on GROUND FLOOR, 164, DES VOEUX ROAD, (near the old Admirable Showroom). Full particulars, apply to—  
THE MANAGER,  
HONGKONG AND CHINA GAS CO., LTD. [2796]

## TO LET.

**GODOWNS** in ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS (Basement). Apply—  
SECRETARY,  
A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.  
2032

## TO LET.

**TWO** Newly-constructed EUROPEAN HOUSES, MAGNIFICENT, Modern, Three Flats, Three Large Rooms, each with Kitchen, Servants' Quarters and Bath, fitted with Flush System. Garage provided. Immediate possession. Apply—  
HANG KIN,  
New Bank Building. [2795]

## INTIMATION

# THE SPIRIT OF MELODY.

Melody may cheer or console  
and inspire or soothe. It can  
open the gates of either kindly  
memory or happy hope. The  
melody of music may do these  
things as surely as they are  
achieved by that melody of purity  
and maturity known to the world

## DEWAR'S.

## DEWAR'S

# "White Label" and "Victoria Val."

As supplied to the Houses of  
Lords and Commons.

By Royal Appointment to  
His Majesty The King.

## SOLE AGENTS:

# A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

Hong Kong Office: 14, Chater Road.  
London Office: 131, Fleet Street, E.C.

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, OCTOBER 23rd, 1925.

## BUDGET SUGGESTIONS.

We were glad to note the spirit of optimism regarding the future which permeated all the speeches in the debate on the Budget at the meeting of the Legislative Council yesterday. Our ideal, of course, should always be to combine efficiency with economy, and as much care should be taken in good times as in bad times to expose and denounce extravagant or wasteful Government expenditure. But just recently, we imagine, the Government have been over lightened by a temporary falling off in revenue, and the opinion is gaining ground that in their search for economy they may perhaps needlessly curtail expenditure on works which are required for the Colony's efficient administration.

As the Hon. Mr. H. W. BIRD reminded us, H.E. THE GOVERNOR himself stated last year that he saw no necessity for maintaining the Colony's balance at a higher sum than five million dollars. We shall have, on present figures, something over five millions in hand on December 31st, and it is not expected that this will be reduced by more than half during 1926, even after allowing for an expenditure of nearly five millions on Public Works Extraordinary. There is, therefore, no cause for alarm and we confess to sympathy with the suggestion that wise expenditure upon the development of farming in the New Territories, with the idea of making the Colony more self contained and less dependent on others for our fresh food supply, would be a good investment.

Another case in point is the closing of the Statistical Department of the Imports and Exports Office. The Government decided upon this step after consultation with the Unofficial Members of Council, but apparently the question was not referred to the Chamber of Commerce. Now the members of the Chamber have had an opportunity of considering the subject, and presumably the Hon. Mr. P. H. HOLVOUX was voicing their opinions when he stated that the complete abandonment of the office would be a retrogressive step that should be avoided if possible. This shows the danger of being in a too great hurry to apply the axe.

There is only one other small matter to which we wish to refer at the moment. Mr. DIED suggested that if the trams and ferries would run until a later hour it would encourage more people to live in the suburbs and thus relieve some of the congestion in the City. If the point can be established that Chinese and others now crowd the Central districts because of the lack of proper facilities for transport, the suggestion is one that should be given the most serious attention for the high house rents—out of all proportion to salaries paid—are becoming an intolerable burden in the Colony.

## LOCAL STOCK EXCHANGES.

The report of the Government Commission upon the activities of our Local Stock Exchanges, which is published in detail in this issue, will, we feel sure, be read with interest and the closest attention. The subject is one with which, directly or indirectly, every resident of the Colony is concerned.

The Commission held five meetings to receive evidence and three meetings to consider their report, and they have given us broadly a review of the conditions as they existed prior to the collapse of the market in June, a general criticism of the management of the Exchanges and suggestions for remedying the more obvious evils which had been allowed to grow up and flourish unchecked.

A former Vice-Chairman of the Share-brokers' Association is said to have stated, in the course of his evidence, that he saw no objection to a broker carrying on business while he was insolvent. It seems to have been considered quite in order for a broker to go on dealing even if he was incapable of meeting existing obligations. Why, we wonder in this connection, should a broker enjoy privileges which would certainly be denied the merchant. It would appear that the brokers have been very much more broad-minded and considerate to their fellows in distress than members of the commercial community would be in like circumstances. A system of promissory notes, apparently, surmounted all difficulties until such time as a windfall came. But as the Commission properly point out this system undermined the stability of the market and the position was absolutely unsound as was proved when the difficulties in connection with the June Settlement arose. The brokers accepted business with clients as to whose financial stability they had no knowledge, and as there was no disclosure when they were dealing as principals on their own account and it was even customary for some to charge brokerage in such cases, there was naturally every inducement to speculate and over-trade. Obviously, in such circumstances, a crash was bound to come sooner or later and those who were in the thick of the fight when the crash occurred are left to carry the baby.

The Commission does not suggest legislation to put the Exchanges on a sound footing, but strongly advocates a revision of the Stock Exchange rules and the strict enforcement of such rules when revised. Apparently there has been a great deal of slackness in this direction in the past. The Commission also questions the advisability of keeping the Exchanges closed for a long period and suggests that such closure is unfair to the general body of the public. In connection with this last suggestion it is interesting to note that the Hong Kong Stock Exchange has already announced its intention of re-opening on Saturday next.

A cable to the Hui Tsu Tat Pa station that foreign warships are proceeding along the Yangtze River to Hankow to protect nationals in the event of trouble breaking out.

The master of the S.S. Hui Yang (British) from Penang and Hoehow reported to the Harbour Office yesterday that a Chinese died on board on October 13th from beri-beri.

At the Central Magistracy yesterday, Andrew Smith, 22, unemployed, was fined \$75 for being in an intoxicated condition whilst in charge of a motor cycle combination, in Pedder Street on Wednesday.

A successful dance organised by the Kowloon British School Former Pupils' Association was held at the Central British School last night, the dance commencing at 9 o'clock and continuing until a late hour.

The second yearly ordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong and Kowloon Taxicab Company, Limited, is to be held at the office of the Company, 33 and 35, Des Voeux Road Central, on Friday, October 30th.

Parents and friends of St. Joseph's College are reminded of the opening ceremony of the new reception hall and science laboratory to be performed, by H.E. the Governor (Sir Edward Stubbs, K.C.M.G.), at five o'clock this afternoon.

The return of notifiable diseases in the Colony for the 24 hours ended on October 20th shows 1 English (imported) case of diphtheria, and 3 Chinese cases of enteric fever. The return for the 24 hours ended on October 21st shows 1 Chinese case of diphtheria.

St. Stephen's College magazine (*The Chinese*) has made its appearance for the Trinity term. It contains much matter of interest to the College, including an open letter by Dr. S. W. Tso, in the course of which he offers some sound advice to students.

The Hon. Secretary of the Ladies' Section of the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club reminds members that the annual subscriptions of \$1.00 for the year ending September 30th, 1926, are now due, and may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. S. B. C. Ross, King's College, Kowloon.

At the Summary Court before Mr. Justice Wood yesterday, the Yau Hing firm claimed from the Cheung Shung firm and Chan Hing a partner of the latter, \$238.08 being the balance due for goods sold and delivered. Mr. D. McCallum was for the plaintiffs. The case was adjourned till Tuesday next.

Bookings have already commenced at Messrs. Moutrie's for the season at the Theatre Royal of the Italian Opera Company, which is visiting the East under the direction of the Gonzalez Brothers, who brought Grand Opera to Hong Kong from Italy some years ago. The forthcoming visit of this Company was mentioned in our columns yesterday.

At the Marine Court yesterday, before Lieutenant-Commander G. F. Hole, R.N., Li Yung and Li Pat Tai, mistress of passenger boats, and Fung Kuo, mistress of a cargo boat, were each fined \$40 with four days' hard labour in default, for anchoring their boats in the Cable Reserve between Tai Kok Tsui and the Eastern shore of Stonecutters Island.

The Ladies' Section of the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club invite entries for a "Five Club" competition to be held over the New Course, Faaling, on Monday, November 2nd. "Players" will be divided into teams of five, each competitor being allowed One Club only. Teams will be drawn at Faaling on the day of the competition. Entries may be sent to the Hon. Secretary up to October 30th.

Fish mongers in Canton City have been forced to suspend business owing to a dispute between the collectors of dues for the Red Government and the dealers regarding the contribution towards Kuomintang support, states a Chinese correspondent. According to the original pledge, the fishmongers were only asked to contribute to \$30,000, but since then \$80,000 has been collected by the party, and the Reds are still demanding more.

A full house indicated the great popularity of Miss Pik Wei Ha, the talented Chinese actress, who as mentioned in the *Daily Press* yesterday, made her first appearance at the Taiping Theatre on Wednesday night. Miss Pik is a native of Kiangsu, and is well known in Hong Kong, for she made a great hit with the Chinese public here six years ago. Since then, her art has been perfected under the direction of Mei Lan Fang, the famous actor. She is now considered China's greatest actress. Last night she presented "The Love Scene in Man Tau Nursery," from the famous Chinese novel "The Dream of the Red Castle."

H.M.S. *Hankins*, the flagship of the China Station, returned yesterday morning. Also arriving yesterday morning was the Japanese destroyer *Nashi*. This vessel is destined for Canton where she will relieve the Japanese destroyer *Kana*, which vessel will return to her base for refit. The *Tubaru*, the Japanese cruiser that was in the harbour recently has left. A midshipman's training ship of the Japanese Navy is also expected here at the end of November, making the call on her annual instructional cruise. H.M.S. *Princess*, with Admiral Sir Edwyn Alexander Sinclair, K.C.B., M.V.O. on board, is not due till Saturday or Sunday.



## CABLES.

LATEST CABLES  
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

## COMMUNISTS IN ENGLAND.

## FOUR MORE ARRESTS.

LONDON, October 22nd.  
Two more alleged Communists were arrested by Scotland Yard officials last night.

They were Mr. Hanington and Mr. Robert Arnot, both described as members of the Communist Executive.

## PROCEEDINGS IN COURT.

LONDON, October 22nd.  
Four Communist leaders, Messrs. Murphy, McManus, Arnot and Hanington, were remanded at Bow Street until tomorrow, when they will be brought up with eight others, charged with conspiracy and incitement to mutiny.

## TOLL OF FRANCE'S WARS.

## REPORT BY M. PAINLEVÉ.

PARIS, October 22nd.  
According to the summary of the French losses in the present warlike operations reported to have been given by M. Painlevé before the Finance Committee of the Chamber the total of killed up to August 31st in Morocco was 1,250, including 8 French officers and 200 French soldiers.

The wounded totalled 3,500 among whom were 100 French officers and 1,350 French soldiers.

From August 1st to October 15th was the period of the greatest activity, and 501 were killed including 31 French officers and 220 French soldiers. Foreign Legionaries are counted as Frenchmen.

The wounded in the same period totalled 2,901.

Those killed in Syria totalled 30 for the first six months of 1925, but from then up to October 10th the number was 555.

The Moroccan operations cost 950,000,000 francs.

## STRIKE OF SEAMEN.

## VESSELS TIED UP IN AUSTRALIA AT PRESENT.

MELBOURNE, October 22nd.  
Forty-two vessels throughout Australia are at present idle through the strike.

The overseas strike committee has declared that all British ships at Brisbane are black. Thirty of the stockhold crew of the steamer *Ermine* from Melbourne struck. Efforts are being made to bring out a crew from Port Campbell. Ship owners have begun advertising for volunteers.

## COMMUNISTS IN POLAND.

## WHOLESALE ARRESTS BY WARSAW POLICE.

WARSAW, October 22nd.  
The police have been most active against Communists. One hundred were arrested at Bialystok and Slonim, including the entire executive committee of the Communist Party of White Ruthenia.

## FOREIGNERS IN MEXICO.

MEXICO CITY, October 22nd.  
The Senate took the first reading of the "Calle's" Bill, enforcing Article XXV of the Constitution, under which foreigners will be forced within three years—unless they become Mexican citizens—to sell their property in land or on the water fronts.

This Bill particularly affects oil and mining companies. Its final passage seems favourable.

## VIENNA GETS CREDIT.

VIENNA, October 22nd.  
The Bodencredit Bank has concluded negotiations with American bankers to a long term loan of several million dollars for the development of Austrian agriculture. The first instalment loan, amounting to twenty-four hundred thousand dollars has already been received.

The Bodencredit Bank is giving in exchange dollar mortgage bonds.

## AN INDUSTRIAL ALLIANCE.

LONDON, October 22nd.  
The branches of the transport general workers' union overwhelmingly accepted the proposals for formation of an industrial alliance, mentioned on September 1st.

## EARLIER CABLES.

## ABD EL KRIM'S ADVISER.

## NOT BLOWN FROM THE MOUTH OF A GUN.

TETUAN, October 21st.  
The report that Abd el Krim's Foreign Minister had been fired from a gun, on suspicion of treachery, is baseless. Mohamed Zerkané is in excellent health and so is Abd el Krim's confidential adviser.

## INTERNATIONAL WIRELESS.

## CODE CHANGES CONSIDERED.

PARIS, October 21st.  
The International Telegraph Conference have decided to appoint a committee to report on the matter of changes in code language. This means that the present rules as regards code cypher will remain in force until the next conference, in three years' time. Hence an increase in the telegraph rates has not yet come up for consideration at the plenary conference, but it has been virtually adopted.

## ULTIMATUM TO BULGARIA.

## SEQUEL TO BORDER SHOOTING INCIDENT.

SOFIA, October 21st.  
A semi-official statement in regard to the incident at Belles declares that a Greek soldier fired on a Bulgarian sentry who killed his assailant. A fusillade followed.

## THE GREEK DEMANDS.

ATHENS, October 21st.  
The Greek Government have sent an ultimatum to Bulgaria in connection with the frontier incident, giving a time-limit of 48 hours, and demanding an indemnity of two million French francs, an expression of regret, and the punishment of those responsible.

## GREEK PREMIER'S STATEMENT.

ATHENS, October 21st.  
The Premier, General Pangalos, states that the troops are temporarily not entering Bulgaria, but are only stationed along the frontier. The initiative for further measures has been left to the commanding officer of the Third Army Corps.

## GREEK MINISTER RESIGNS.

ATHENS, October 21st.  
The Foreign Minister, M. Rendis, has resigned. The Naval Minister, M. Hadjikyriakos, temporarily replaces him.

## LAWN TENNIS SENSATION.

## CRACK PLAYER SUSPENDED.

ALLAHABAD, October 21st.  
It is announced from Lahore that the Council of the All-India Lawn Tennis Association has suspended Jacob until October 1st, 1926, for contravening the rules of the International Lawn Tennis Federation. This is apparently a sequel to the incidents of April 20th and 24th and May 24th last, when Jacob and Ezye, the Indian Davis Cup entrants, were in trouble for having, as alleged, irregularly accepted hospitality from a Paris club.

## LATEST CABLES.

## GREEKS ENTER BULGARIA.

SOFIA, October 22nd.  
A semi-official statement announces that a detachment of Greeks, with artillery, entered Bulgarian Territory. The Bulgarian sentries, when attacked, retaliated. Five Bulgarians were killed. The remainder of the Bulgarians retired. The Greeks occupied three posts.

## EARLIER CABLES.

## "RED" ROUND-UP CONTINUES.

## TWO MORE ARRESTS IN LONDON.

LONDON, October 21st.  
Two more Communist leaders, Messrs. McManus and Murphy, were arrested in London this afternoon.

## EARLIER CABLES.

## ITALIAN SAILORS' ORDEAL.

## GALLANT RESCUE BY AMERICAN VESSEL.

NOVA SCOTIA, October 21st.  
The Italian steamer *Ignazio Florio* from Montreal to Avonmouth has been abandoned in a sinking condition. The crew are safe aboard the steamer *President Harding*.

## SECOND OFFICER PERISHES.

NEW YORK, October 21st.  
Reports are to hand that the *Ignazio Florio* suffered terribly in the high seas of the mid-Atlantic which swept over her. She lost her rudder, and all her boats were smashed. The second officer was swept overboard, and the first officer had his leg broken.

The ship being in danger of capsizing, the *President Harding* stood by. The first attempt to get boats alongside was unsuccessful, but the crew of thirty-seven were finally rescued.

## U.S. BANKERS.

## NOT IN FAVOUR OF 'LOANS TO FRANCE.'

WASHINGTON, October 21st.  
Further indications that the Government is scrutinising all proposals for private loans by American financiers to France, were forthcoming after a conference between President Coolidge and Mr. Mitchell, president of the National City Bank of New York.

Mr. Mitchell subsequently stated that until France settled her war debt, she need expect little sympathy from American bankers in the way of private loans, and added that American banking officials were solidly behind the position taken up by the Government. He asserted that an American banker attempting to float a private French loan in the present circumstances could only have a "Faith, Hope, and Charity" proposition to offer the public.

## TROUBLE IN SYRIA.

## U.S. DESTROYERS RECEIVE ORDERS.

WASHINGTON, October 21st.  
Two American destroyers have been ordered to proceed from Gibraltar, where an American destroyer flotilla has just arrived, to Alexandria for possible service in Syrian ports and to perform any action considered necessary for the protection of American lives and property against possible attacks by the revolting Syrian tribesmen.

The request for the destroyers came from the American Consul at Beirut. The State Department officials hope that it will prove unnecessary to send the vessels to Syria from Alexandria.

## FAR EASTERN CABLE NEWS.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

## NORTHERN WAR CLOUD.

## HSU CHOW FU EVACUATED BY THE MUKDEN TROOPS.

PEKING, October 21st.  
The Mukden garrison has evacuated Hsu Chow Fu in favour of the allied troops.

## FENG'S WIRE TO CHANG.

PEKING, October 21st.  
Yang Yu Ting arrived at Tientsin early this morning and left for Mukden at noon. Mukdenite circles in Peking state that Feng Yu Hsiang has wired to Chang Tso Lin calling him "dear brother" and saying that he hopes for peace. He is now at Pao Tou Chen and when his arrangements there are completed will go on westward.

The wire declares that Chang Tso Lin may use Feng's troops which are in Peking if he so desires.

## WU AND BOLSHIEVICS.

PEKING, October 21st.  
Ingoing and outgoing messages are strictly censored. A cable from Hankow states that Wu Pei Fu, interviewed, declared he was opposed to Communists and Bolshievism as destroyers of the country. He would not be surprised if Feng Yu Hsiang acted in conjunction with him and launched an attack on Mukden.

Wu Pei Fu declared most emphatically that unless the country was put in proper order, the Powers would be unwise to hold the Tariff Conference. It would be better for them if they never started it, for it would not be recognised as legal.

Marshal Wu Pei Fu arrived at Hankow yesterday.

## HUPEH TUPAN'S PROCLAMATION.

HANKOW, October 22nd.  
Hupei Tupan has issued a proclamation declaring the independence of the Province.

It adds that Chang Tso Lin plans to proclaim himself Emperor or to restore the Manchus.

A message from Tsingtao states that the Fengtien leader Chang Sung Chang has established his headquarters at Hsuehchow.

Chang Tso Lin has dismissed Admiral Wen Shou Tsh, who is suspected of intriguing with Marshal Wu Pei Fu. Admiral Pi Shou Chen succeeds to the vacancy.

## WHAT WU SAYS.

Marshal Wu Pei Fu, in an interview with *Reuter*, states that he previously advocated the use of force to suppress mal-administration and uphold law, but when his policy cried for peace, the people since had had a term of so-called peace wherein conditions had become so bad that an appeal had now reached him from fourteen provinces, to which it was his duty to respond.

He is opposed to Communism and thinks that Marshal Feng Yu Hsiang (the Christian General) will co-operate with him; and he would not be surprised if Feng launched an attack independently against Mukden.

In conclusion, Wu Pei Fu hoped that Shantung and Chihli would join him without fighting.

## SHANGHAI ENQUIRY.

SHANGHAI, October 22nd.  
Mr. V. G. Lyman, Chairman of the Municipal Council, Finance Committee, giving evidence, admitted that he did not know what limits existed to the building of the Council's roads in Chinese Territory. He considered the precautions taken by Mr. McEuen sufficient to cope with any situation. Further corroborative police testimony was given.

## WATCH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S EVIDENCE.

SHANGHAI, October 22nd.  
Mr. V. G. Lyman, Chairman of the Municipal Council, Finance Committee, giving evidence, admitted that he did not know what limits existed to the building of the Council's roads in Chinese Territory. He considered the precautions taken by Mr. McEuen sufficient to cope with any situation. Further corroborative police testimony was given.

## PUBLIC HEALTH IN F.E.

## HYGIENE COMMITTEE STARTS WORKS AT TOKYO.

GENEVA, October 22nd.  
The exchange of Public Health Officers in the Far East, instituted by the hygiene committee of the League of Nations, which began in Tokyo on October 10th, will be concluded at Dairen on December 4th.

Seventeen officials are involved from the public health departments of Australia, China, Malay States, Hongkong, India, the Dutch East Indies, Indo-China, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines and Russia.

The object is to acquaint the officials participating with the organisation of the working of public health services in Japan.

## BRITAIN AND CHINA.

## PROPAGANDA NECESSARY TO UPHOLD TRADE.

LONDON, October 22nd.  
A correspondent, writing in the commercial column of the *Manchester Guardian*, urges the need of British trade propaganda in China.

He emphasises the American, German and Japanese activity in this respect. He says that trade statistics prove that Britain is losing ground in China while other countries are gaining it. We are in danger of losing the China trade for ever. The British Government, supported by big trade-federation magnates of the country, must take immediate steps to organise a very complete propaganda in China to avert disaster.

## GOVS FAREWELL TO COUNCIL.

## APPOINT OF MEMBERS' SERVICE.

## SIX STEADY PROGRESS CLAIMED.

At session of the routine business of the Council yesterday afternoon, the Governor took a formal of the members and paid a high to the assistance they had given what he claimed to have been of steady progress for the Colony.

Hon. Mr. P. H. Holsloak: Sir, members of the Council—It only remains to perform a duty which I uphold a keen consciousness of my duty to justice to the occasion, that I leave of this Council over which had the honour to preside for six years. You will I trust forgive me not to take the opportunity before you a full account of my ship. I am, as you know, no frequent speaker and I do not think present juncture, when we have been called to abandon for the time any of the works which I had begun during my term of office, a suitable time for such a review.

I think no great work has been achieved by the Colony which will serve to the successors of my Governor. I hope to see the Praya East Road practically finished, and I had hoped to see the Military London settled, but unexpected developments have resulted in disappointment. I can only claim that the six years of steady progress towards the period of stabilising the war have been made up. Development of the Colony has been steady, and my successor will be able to do as the present period of development, to proceed confidently with the works which I had hoped to see done in my time.

The Colony to my great regret at my trouble and difficulty, but I am sure that this shadow will soon pass and Hongkong will resume the progress which will lead it to a position surpassing anything that it has ever known.

A REVISIT.  
I have kindly expressed the hope that I may some day revisit Hongkong. I am afraid that for the few years I shall be at a distance will render a casual visit impossible, but in some sixteen years' time I shall be celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of my Government of Hongkong. I hope that the Government will then invite me—if I am still alive—to be one of the oldest surviving members of Hongkong—to take part in the celebrations and to see for myself how the reality corresponds with my dreams.

RELATIONS WITH COUNCIL.  
I do not want to take up your time by discussing the Colony and its future should wish on this occasion to speak with my relations to the Council. We have worked together, gentlemen, for more than six years while I cannot claim that we have been in entire agreement and that where we have differed we have realised as clearly as I have that on both sides the only way out of the difficulty has been to do what each has believed to be best for the interests of the Colony.

I valued my association with you. I can say and it will always be my proudest memories that you have been to me a most helpful and generous aid. I have been to you a most helpful and generous aid. I have been to you a most helpful and generous aid.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.  
I have a special debt of gratitude to you who have served on my Executive Council, for I fear that I have many occasions taxed your patience and your understanding to the limit. I have often felt that, although I did not say so, you must have thought I was wasting your time in long discussions and by bringing before you matters which there was no statutory obligation to refer to the Executive Council. I can only ask you to forgive me for the advantage that I have always been that it is better to discuss things than they are done rather than after, whenever possible to make sure that a decision is taken. I am not so sure as to believe that I have made no mistakes, but I do feel justified in claiming that I have avoided many of the mistakes that those long meetings have made and that those long meetings have made and that those long meetings have made.

Before Mr. R. A. D. Forrest at the Central Magistracy yesterday, four Chinese arrested in a gambling case forfeited their bail of \$250 each, on non-appearance when the case was called. In the case of a fifth man who was principal tenant of the floor, and was indicted on a count of being the keeper, Mr. O. S. Russ defended and a discharge was ordered, the bail of \$250 being returned.

CHINESE COLLEAGUES.  
May I, in conclusion, address a few words specially to my Chinese colleagues? I have valued very highly the confidence and friendship which has been accorded to me by Mr. Chow Shou Son and Mr. Kotewall and their predecessors. They have always been ready to come to me when asked to give me their advice on matters affecting the Chinese community, and they have done great service both to the community and to me by bringing personally to my notice any thing in which the Chinese were specially interested and on which it was important that I should know their views.

You, Mr. Chow Shou Son and you, Mr. Kotewall have rendered invaluable service to the Colony during the troublous times of the last few months. I know, better than most, the difficulties with which you have had to contend and the tremendous amount of work which you have done, and I feel that I should be gravely lacking in gratitude if I did not, on the occasion of this my last appearance in Council, take the opportunity of publicly testifying to your services and expressing the thanks of the Colony to you.

GOOD-BYE.  
Now, gentlemen, I have nothing more to say than to bid you good-bye and to wish you the best of all wishes for your future and for that of this honourable Council. I need not express a continuance on behalf of my successor a continuance of the kindness with which you have treated me and of the assistance which has been so readily given to me during my tenure of office. Good-bye. (Applause.)

TRIBUTES TO HIS EXCELLENCY.  
Hon. Mr. P. H. Holsloak: Sir, on behalf of the official Members of Council I desire to express our great regret that this is the last meeting at which you will be presiding over our deliberations which have been characterised throughout by the utmost harmony even during critical debates. There will even during critical debates. There will even during critical debates.

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## LOCAL SPORT.

## CRICKET.

## UNIVERSITY "A" DEFEAT "FOXGLOVE."

The University "A" team defeated H.M.S. *Foxglove* in a friendly cricket match on the University ground, Pokfulam, on Wednesday, by 4 wickets and 100 runs.

Scores:—

H.M.S. "FOXGLOVE"

|                                        |   |
|----------------------------------------|---|
| Osborne, b. Balhatchett                | 3 |
| Lieut. Hubback, c. Vianje, b. Peterson | 0 |
| Jones, b. Balhatchett                  | 5 |
| Dearle, c. Ng, b. Peterson             | 8 |
| Lieut. Adams, b. Sudan                 | 7 |
| Birtchell, c. Sudan, b. Peterson       | 1 |
| Bate, b. Gittins                       | 9 |
| Manville, b. Sudan                     | 0 |
| Surg. Lieut. Kirwan, not out           | 5 |
| Skilling, b. Gittins                   | 0 |
| Gilbert, c. Vianje, b. Gittins         | 0 |
| Extras                                 | 5 |

Total 45

## Bowling Analysis.

|             |     |   |    |   |
|-------------|-----|---|----|---|
| Balhatchett | 0   | 2 | 18 | 2 |
| Peterson    | 7   | 4 | 11 | 3 |
| Sudan       | 3   | 1 | 5  | 2 |
| Gittins     | 2.5 | 1 | 3  | 3 |

## UNIVERSITY "A."

|                                           |    |
|-------------------------------------------|----|
| C. A. Peterson, c. Osborne, b. Dearle     | 11 |
| E. Zimmerman, c. Jones, b. Osborne        | 13 |
| W. H. Sling, c. Bate, b. Osborne          | 1  |
| H. N. Balhatchett, c. Skilling, b. Dearle | 40 |
| J. L. Youngs, c. b. Dearle, b. Dearle     | 0  |
| W. M. Gittins, c. b. Birtchell            | 11 |
| B. N. Sudan, not out                      | 45 |
| B. P. Ng, not out                         | 45 |
| Extras                                    | 7  |

Total (for 6 wickets) 152

V. F. R. Vianje, J. Tajima and H. T. Barma did not bat.

## Bowling Analysis.

|           |   |   |    |   |
|-----------|---|---|----|---|
| Dearle    | 0 | 2 | 47 | 3 |
| Osborne   | 6 | 0 | 43 | 2 |
| Birtchell | 7 | 0 | 31 | 1 |
| Bate      | 2 | 0 | 24 | 0 |

## GOLF.

## INTERPORT SINGLES AT MANILA.

The Interport singles were played at Manila yesterday, when Manila won four of the six matches.

The Hongkong players who won their matches were Mr. Andrews and Mr. W. Douglas.

The Hongkong team visiting Manila comprises: Messrs. N. L. Smith (captain), J. M. Walker, L. R. Andrews, C. Bulmer Johnson, W. Douglas and D. G. Bruce.

The foursomes will be played to-day.

## WATER POLO.

There was one game played at the Victoria Recreation Club last evening in the Water Polo League.

This was between H.M.S. *Hermes* and H.M.S. *Andromeda*. The first named team winning by two goals to nil.

## FOOTBALL.



## THE BUDGET PASSED.

(Continued from page 5.)

## HAWKERS' LICENCES.

As regards the Hawkers' licences to which members have referred, I think it is realised that we have to maintain some proportion between the number actually required or who get some sort of livelihood from hawking and the block in the streets caused by hawkers' stalls in crowded parts of the city. I have resisted attempts by the Captain Superintendent of Police to reduce the number below certain figures, and I have gone carefully into his arguments on this question of obstruction. The Senior Member of Council and the Chinese members can rest assured that this matter of Hawkers' licences will not be lost sight of. Unless there is real reason for reducing the licences, either owing to obstruction or to the fact that certain classes of hawkers are unnecessary, the number will not be reduced.

## REFUSE DESTROYERS.

The Senior Unofficial member and his colleague referred to the question of refuse destroyers, and I may say at once that when I came to this Colony I came with knowledge of refuse destroyers in the Straits Settlements and Malay States which made me think they were wonderful things to perform two offices—that of destroying refuse and supplying a very good class of manure. I tried to impress my views upon Sir Henry May and found him entirely sympathetic. I considered I was in the right and thought they should be erected in this Colony. Since then we have called for reports from various places, and hon. members will remember that the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. Fletcher, in the debate on the Budget in 1923 referred to this matter. I am going to read you his remarks because they converted me to the opinion that refuse destroyers here are unnecessary. Dealing with the matter Mr. Fletcher said:

"It was asked that we should have an incinerator for the destruction of rubbish. That question has been gone into exhaustively on three occasions, first in 1901, and again in 1906, when reports were laid on the table in this Council, and again in 1921. On each occasion we asked particulars of Singapore, Penang, Kuala Lumpur, and other towns and the replies were most discouraging because of the enormous expense. The capital cost of building runs as high as six and a half dollars per ton of rubbish consumed annually, against our cost of eighty cents for all our plant and material. The rubbish is largely of a light vegetable nature and it requires a third of its weight in fuel to consume and leaves a third in slag to be got rid of. The destructor requires complete renewal once every ten years. The question of the disposal of the slag is also a matter of great difficulty. At Home it is very much used for road repairs, but here we have a much better and entirely accessible material in granite. Therefore, this slag would have to be carted away. It could be used in reclamation but it would have to be taken there. The nuisance of these collecting stations on the Praya would not necessarily be done away with. The town is very narrow and the destructor would have to be at one end and the other and all refuse would have to be taken along the streets as now. An incinerator must be more or less a nuisance to people in the neighbourhood, and I think it would cause much more trouble than the finding of an occasional cabbage leaf on a bathing beach now does."

That statement to my mind is convincing.

## LATER TRAMS AND FERRIES.

With regard to the question the hon. member has raised concerning late hours for the ferry service and trams, the Western ferry service is run under contract and I am perfectly certain that if the successful tenderer for that service considered it would pay to run to a later hour he would do it at once. Even if he would not do it merely for the comfort and convenience of those who liked to stay up very late at night, no doubt special fares could be arranged. Two o'clock in the morning was given as a suitable hour, but I really think that people who can afford habitually to stay out until that time for reasons of their own might be expected to be able to afford a motor boat. Trams stop at an early hour. I do not know and have never known the reason. But the same remarks apply to these people on the island who wish to remain up to such late hours for reasons into which we need not enquire—they might be expected to pay for a motor car. However, the companies might be approached to see if they would run later services. The ferry runs until one o'clock but that is only for Kowloon. The Peak trams run until 12 o'clock and it is always possible to arrange for a late car. Only the low level trams, therefore, have to be considered. I am surprised that they stop at some extraordinary early hour—10.30 I think. That is a matter for negotiation with the Company.

## LAND SALES.

As regards land sales and the Building Covenants the Government recognises the difficult circumstances and wherever a man is obviously trying to carry out his covenant he will be treated leniently. Circumstances differ in different cases and it is sometimes difficult to know how to deal with these matters. Every case is considered very carefully and certainly there is no intention of imposing heavy fines and penalties at present unless there is an absolute disregard of the building covenant altogether.

## FIRE BRIGADE.

The personnel of the Fire Brigade is certainly rather a serious thing. The present remuneration does not appear to attract and it has been decided to raise it with a view to bringing up the full proportion of the staff. Whether it will be necessary to increase that of the European officers has to be seen. The question of station officers has been gone into very carefully and it was not considered necessary to increase the number. The

only reason given for an increase of station officers is that one might fall sick. But the senior Chinese members of the staff are very efficient and have shown themselves so on many occasions.

## BANYAN TREES.

It is very sad to think that these banyan trees in Nathan Road will have to go sometime. It is recognised that they will have to go when the service of buses is started. They have been carefully counted by the Superintendent of the Botanical and Forestry Department and they will have to come down. They were planted when the road was narrow and are now all over the place. No one dislikes seeing the trees removed more than I do but they constitute a danger. If the branches are lopped on one side and not on the other it makes them unstable and it might mean an accident. There are 200 of them and they will have to go, but not at present. Their time will come when we start strengthening the road and the bus service commences. I thank hon. members for their comments on the estimates. I am speaking for the last time in a Budget debate. We are all more or less in unity as regards the future prosperity of the Colony. (Applause.)

## H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR: Gentlemen, the Director of Public Works and the Colonial Secretary, in a speech which may be described as his swan song, have dealt with most of the points raised. There are, however, one or two on which I should like to say a few words, prefacing them with the observation that if I had realised earlier that this was the last occasion on which the Colonial Secretary would probably attend a meeting of the Council I should have foretold the remarks of the senior Chinese member. I did not realise that the Council would probably not meet again between my departure and that of the Colonial Secretary, and I should like at this point to take the opportunity of thanking him for the highly efficient manner in which he has served as Colonial Secretary for some 14 years in this Colony and for the entirely adequate way in which he has taken the place of Governors during temporary absences.

## JUNIOR CLERICAL SERVICE.

To come to more immediate points, the hon. Senior Unofficial Member referred to the question of classifying the junior clerical service separately. The Colonial Secretary dealt with one point of view. Mr. Holyoak's point was that under the old system you could see the exact cost of a department. The answer is that you could not. At what figure the cost was put it was not the figure of the estimates because the cost of the clerks was bound to change in two or three months. If you will take the figure under a department in the estimates and add to it the figure given in the appendix, you will get a very much nearer approximation of the truth. But the truth in these cases lies at the bottom of a deep well. The clerical service grouped together saves considerable expenditure of time and stationery in the Treasurer's office and I confidently assure members that this change, for which I take entire responsibility, is a salutary and useful one.

The hon. member also mentioned the question of the abolition of the statistical department. I, like the hon. member and everybody else, am entirely unable to understand the enormous cost of this department, but it is more obvious that the cost was far more than we were justified in paying for statistics which apparently were not required for the commercial community who took no interest in them, and whose accuracy could not be guaranteed in any way whatever. It may be possible, I understand, through a semi-official agency to provide statistics equally valuable at a reasonable rate, and that question will be gone into. At the same time there is a matter in connection with this subject to which I am sorry to have to refer. There is no question that the necessity of providing these statistics gave rise to a great amount of abuse. In connection with these statistics, permits were required for exports, and I have it on evidence I cannot reject that the necessity of applying for these permits was used by clerks of that department for purposes of obtaining what is known as "squeeze." Had I understood this matter before I should have had an investigation made at once, and I shall certainly not consent to the reconstruction of this department without that matter being investigated. I appeal to our Chinese colleagues to ask them to urge their countrymen to bring such cases to the notice of the Government. I am constantly receiving complaints of "squeeze" in the Government service, but no one will ever come forward and actually sign his name to a complaint. I cannot believe that these numerous complaints have no justification, but it is impossible for the Government to take action unless we can obtain clear evidence. I would ask the Chinese members to ask the Chinese Chamber of Commerce to report any such cases at once.

## MILITARY LANDS.

The hon. member referred to the unfortunate postponement or cancellation of the military lands arrangement. The Oakley award was merely a statement of the amount of money which was to be paid if certain lands in the occupation and possession of the military were taken from them. There was no obligation upon us to take these lands and no obligation on the military to leave them. The only point Sir John Oakley was asked to decide was, in the event of taking the land from the military, what was a fair price to pay. If we do not take the land the question drops at once.

## PORT DEVELOPMENT.

The hon. member referred to the heavy cost of the Port Development Department. I think that the figures in the estimates do not quite indicate the exact facts of the case, because the heavy personal emoluments and other charges which amount to over \$100,000 look high in comparison with the actual expenditure on port works of \$800,000.

The hon. member went on to say that economies could be carried out and said that in his opinion the final situation was not such as to necessitate applying the axe to works urgently required and went on to remark that I suggested last year \$5,000,000 as a table figure for a reserve. Speaking under the same conditions as last year I should repeat that, but speaking under the conditions as they exist I am

no means sure that I should. Five million dollars is a nice sum to have in hand for a rainy day when everything is going satisfactorily, and revenue meets expenditure but if your revenue for reasons beyond your control is extremely uncertain and may very likely come very far short of balancing your expenditure, I think it is desirable to keep your reserve as high as you can by cutting out all work not absolutely necessary. I trust and believe that in a few months, or a year's time at the latest, the Colony will be able to bring forward a supplementary list of works which will enable the hon. member to see the streets properly named and the other things he has suggested carried out, but at the present time I deprecate taking a too optimistic view of the situation which cannot be said to be entirely satisfactory.

## EDUCATION.

I have left to the last the question of education, which was raised by the Attorney-General, and by the senior Chinese member. I am afraid I was so wrapped up in the wonderful construction of my predecessor's last paragraph that I rather missed the exact meaning of the Attorney-General's remarks. I think, however, it must be admitted that something has gone wrong with education as applied to the Chinese from Western quarters, and that part taken by students, who should be supposed to have acquired an intelligence beyond that of their uneducated countrymen, has shown that they possess less than the beasts which perish. I am inclined to agree with what I know is the view of the Director of Education. Our mistake has been in attaching too much importance to Western education, from which, if you come to examine the matter very closely, it is not clear that all Occidentals benefit very greatly. It is certainly a mistake that we have not paid more attention to the vernacular education of Chinese. I may tell you that the Director of Education is devoting much time to the discussion of this subject with my entire sympathy and support, and I hope that in due course it will be possible to provide a chain of Chinese education from the vernacular schools for Chinese to a Chinese faculty in the University. I think I have dealt with all the points raised, and any other points hon. members desire me to dilate upon further I shall be prepared to do so. (Applause.)

## FIRE BRIGADE.

The Hon. Mr. Bird's remark that the Fire Brigade have been hit by the Colonial Secretary is a little regret I did not take a further side. Well, I am afraid our side did not coincide. (Laughter.)

## NEW TERRITORIES.

With regard to the question of the New Territories I am surprised to hear the hon. member say that the Colonies are suitable for extensive reclamation. I can assure him that I find those thousands of acres of land not being put to the best possible use. The geological survey was not to accomplish. I entirely agree in as to the desirability of encouraging inhabitants to grow fruit, vegetables and so on. Not long ago in the village of Kam Tin, I favoured to interest the Elders in matters, and urged them to establish themselves as pig and chicken breeders especially in the Colony. I said the Government would be happy to consider any proposals which they had to put forward. The Elders listened to the customary politeness of the Elders, and then I have no doubt that the Government will take a sympathetic view of any practical suggestion to the smallness of which is not possible to do much, but I had one or two instances before me last few weeks which suggest that thing might be done. For instance, Soares interested me particularly in an excellent banana he is growing, fully and Mr. Alves has established a flourishing ginger plantation in the neighbourhood. Now that the town of the public is being gradually developed, if we do not do more to please than I shall.

## STREET NAMES.

With regard to the question of street names I think last year I ended hon. members to the extent of stating that street names would be dealt with by the Director of Public Works. I do not think we could regard the placing of street names as a necessity, but I have no doubt that the Government will take a sympathetic view of any practical suggestion to the smallness of which is not possible to do much, but I had one or two instances before me last few weeks which suggest that thing might be done. For instance, Soares interested me particularly in an excellent banana he is growing, fully and Mr. Alves has established a flourishing ginger plantation in the neighbourhood. Now that the town of the public is being gradually developed, if we do not do more to please than I shall.

## TREES IN NATHAN ROAD.

With regard to the trees in Nathan Road, referred to by the Colonial Secretary, I quite agree with the hon. member that the banyan trees are most valuable and I shall be glad to see them removed. At the present time of appearance to be doing any particular and if we remove them now we will have to spend a fairly considerable sum in replacing the road where there have been and generally making a tidy. It would be a mistake to put work in hand considering that in a few years we shall be improving and widening the roads.

With regard to motor traffic and the desirability of widening the bridge on the Taipo Road, I deprecate the fact that every road in this Colony is being widened as a matter of course. I suggest that a narrow bridge is only a danger to people, driving at excessive speed, to cross at the same time in opposite directions. If drivers would exercise a reasonable amount of intelligence and forethought, they would slow down naturally until one person had crossed the bridge. The practice of widening and improving the roads of the Cay just for the sake of trying out the powers of motor cars is not one which I am personally in sympathy with.

## A SUITABLE RESERVE.

The hon. member went on to say that economies could be carried out and said that in his opinion the final situation was not such as to necessitate applying the axe to works urgently required and went on to remark that I suggested last year \$5,000,000 as a table figure for a reserve. Speaking under the same conditions as last year I should repeat that, but speaking under the conditions as they exist I am

no means sure that I should. Five million dollars is a nice sum to have in hand for a rainy day when everything is going satisfactorily, and revenue meets expenditure but if your revenue for reasons beyond your control is extremely uncertain and may very likely come very far short of balancing your expenditure, I think it is desirable to keep your reserve as high as you can by cutting out all work not absolutely necessary. I trust and believe that in a few months, or a year's time at the latest, the Colony will be able to bring forward a supplementary list of works which will enable the hon. member to see the streets properly named and the other things he has suggested carried out, but at the present time I deprecate taking a too optimistic view of the situation which cannot be said to be entirely satisfactory.

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## UNOFFICIALS' REPLY.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK: I wish to reply to some of the statements which have been made, but at the outset I should like to say that the Unofficial Members did not realise that this would be the last occasion on which the Colonial Secretary would be present at the meeting of Council. If we had realised this we should certainly have made some reference to it and should have associated ourselves with the remarks which have been made by you, Sir, and by the Senior Chinese Member. I anticipated that he would be present at a later meeting and that we should have an opportunity of taking an official farewell then.

## WATER SCHEMES.

With reference to the question of water schemes I am glad to have the assurance of the Director of Public Works that these schemes will be continued. I must confess, however, that I was somewhat surprised to hear that the contract for the Bowen Road East Gravity Filtration Plant had been let to Messrs. Patterson without reference to the Finance Committee, for the simple reason that the Director of Public Works knows the Finance Committee took a personal interest in the matter and inspected the system in force and made recommendations. From that time on we have had neither a report nor any other reference in connection with this question. I learn from the first time that the Patterson system has been adopted. I know that that system has been almost entirely scrapped in England, and that the system we advocated has been very largely, almost universally, adopted and has given satisfaction. I submit the question should have been submitted to us as a Committee, before this system was definitely adopted. The explanation of the Director of Public Works in connection with my remarks on "Other Charges" really bear on the general subject of putting in large sums of money without definite explanations. On more than one occasion we have had to refer to the Finance Committee, to votes which had to be passed without sufficient explanation and this is part and parcel of the same thing.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR: I rather think that there is some misunderstanding. The figure quoted on page 79 of the estimates is made up of a very large number of estimates which are explained both in the draft estimates and on the notes covering the differences in the estimates. The hon. member should appreciate that the total may cover 40 items.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK: It might be appreciated by an accountant, but I am not an accountant.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR: The word "total," Other Charges, would seem to indicate that it was a total even if the hon. member is not an accountant.

## EAST PRAYA DRAINAGE.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK: On the question of Praya East drainage I could not help noting the remarks of the Director of Public Works that he "hoped" the contractor responsible would improve the position. Surely it is for the Director of Public Works to insist upon the improvement.

## REFUSE DESTROYERS.

With regard to refuse destroyers, notwithstanding the fact that the Colonial Secretary has re-read to us the statement made in previous discussions, I would beg you to note it is the unanimous recommendation of the Unofficial Members that refuse destroyers should be experimented with.

## TRADE STATISTICS.

I am glad to hear that some arrangement may be made for the continuance of the figures in connection with the Imports and Exports Department. I was asked to raise this question by interested merchants who are, perhaps, more interested than they appear to be. The real fact is that in almost every other port in the world you have Customs. In Hongkong you have none. Whilst it is true that the Chinese Maritime Customs function they do not function fully as far as Hongkong returns are concerned. If it was desired to find out in two years time what effect the strike had had in Hongkong trade it would be impossible to get the necessary information without these figures. The argument that the Import and Export figures are not reliable is no argument against the need for keeping them but is rather an argument against the method of compiling them. Without such figures it is impossible to make a comparison between one year and another and what is more important there is no means of comparing the imports into this Colony of competitor countries. They are part of world trade statistics and Hongkong should not be lacking in that respect. We do feel that the cost of the Department is preposterous and that the cost ought to be very much lower than it has been.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY: There are a tremendous number of items and it is purely physical work in recording them.

## DANGEROUS BRIDGES.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK: With reference to the Taipo Road bridges, I agree with Your Excellency's remarks as to speed, of course, but for a long time past the first section of the Taipo Road has been a menace to safety. From a motorist's point of view—and I speak as one who drives, they are a positive danger. They should have been one of the first improvements undertaken. Money has been spent on other roads which should have been spent on the main road in the New Territories. We submit that the improvement of the road ought now to be amongst the first of new work undertaken. The first three bridges are extremely dangerous and very narrow.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY: The bridges between the Reservoir and Shatin?

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK: Yes. They are very dangerous however carefully you drive.

The Bill was then read a second time. Council went into Committee to consider details of the Bill. No changes were made in Committee, and upon Council resuming.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the third reading of the Bill. The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed. Council adjourned sine die.

## WASH AMAH'S MONEY.

At the Central Magistracy yesterday, Mr. S. B. B. McDermid reserved his decision in the case, reported in yesterday's issue, in which a Chinese wash amah was charged with attempting to export over \$3,000 in bank notes from the Colony.

The money, it is alleged, was found on her when she was stopped at the Wing Lok Wharf by police officers on Tuesday. When she appeared on Wednesday before His Worship, the defendant told him that the money represented all her life savings and denied that she was attempting to export it.

Yesterday, His Worship said that he desired further enquiries to be made as to where she obtained the money and adjourned the case for one week.

Mr. L. D. Turner, who defended, said that on the basis of 80 a month her savings for 27 years amounted to nearly \$3,000. To this had to be added the money which the woman had stated she received from a relative to buy a house in the country.

Another exporting charge. A Chinese was charged yesterday at the Central Magistracy with attempting to remove \$73 when he was caught on the Macao boat on Wednesday.

Detective Sub-Inspector Shannon said that money changers here allowed a premium of 14 per cent. on local money when changing into Kwangtung currency. Double the amount of premium was obtained in Canton and Macao on Hongkong money.

A fine of \$10 was imposed.

## KAUKONG CLASH.

## TWO CHINESE VERSIONS.

Accusing the town of Kaukong, along the West River, at which Hongkong-Wuchow steamers call regularly for silk under normal conditions, of having given aid to anti-Reds, the Kuomintang Red Army attacked it on October 16th, with the village and the merchants' volunteer defence corps defending the town, writes a Chinese correspondent. Reports to hand give the casualties as 100 of the people and 300 Reds. In course of hostilities, 42 or 43 houses were destroyed, involving a loss of about \$500,000. In the first two days of the conflict, the volunteers disarmed nearly 500 Reds.

A report by another Chinese correspondent states that Chiang's troops arrived off Kaukong on October 10th in several transports with a launch in tow, but one of the vessels struck a mine previously laid by the volunteers. About 300 Red soldiers were killed in the explosion. As a consequence, General Li Fook Lam was instructed to send a reinforcement of 800 soldiers to strengthen the weakened forces but, on arrival they were immediately disarmed by the volunteers.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## LABOUR LEADERS' POWER IN CANTON.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Sir,—In the Canton Gazette of yesterday was published an order issued by the Military Council of the Nationalist Government to various organisations which reads as follows:—

"The letter of the Strike Committee stated that they received a report from the Patrol Leader Chan Chuk declaring that a service steamer was seen smuggling provisions to the enemies, and passengers to Hongkong and Macao. The Government was requested to order the different organisations to notify their subordinates not to violate the strike, as such action when found out would be strictly dealt with. It was decided at the meeting of the Standing Committee to hand over the matter to the Military Council for settlement. All military officials are expected to restrict their subordinates, and to adhere to the order."

Not having seen any formal declaration of war we are wondering who the enemies were, but perhaps two incidents which occurred on the same day may throw some light on the subject.

A Swiss citizen resident on Shamscia paying a business call on a Chinese friend in the City was by the latter presented with a seasonable delicacy in the shape of a tin of ricebirds. On returning he was stopped by the strike pickets outside the French bridge, who informed him that no food stuffs were permitted to enter the island.

The same thing happened to a member of the American Consular Service who was later in the day bringing home a bunch of bananas.

It would, therefore, appear that, unless these citizens of two friendly sister-republics received supplies from Hongkong, they are confronted with the alternative of dying of starvation or of leaving Kwangtung.

Such is the strike pickets' inhumanity to "guests" from abroad, but their inhumanity towards their own kith and kin goes somewhat further. The Kung-yi Hospital saw fit recently to dispense with the services of three incompetent gardeners. This resulted in the calling out of all servants, and as the hospital draws its water supply from wells, water for the inmates, including 150 wounded men from the Eastern front, was practically non-obtainable. As these could not be allowed to die of thirst or have their condition aggravated on account of lack of water wherewith to wash and dress their wounds the hospital authorities had, after three days, to capitulate and accept the terms dictated, which were that no person can be discharged except with the consent of Strike Committee, and, even if that be accorded, wages up to the end of the current month must be paid plus one month's extra wages.

This callous treatment was meted out by these petty tyrants, whom the Government acknowledges its inability to control, not to "guests" such as the Yunnanese, whom, after they have fought, one's battles, one flings into Canals and stones to death with paving stones, nor to "dograining" Cantonese henchmen of the traitor Chan Kwang-Ming, but to full-blooded one hundred per cent. nationalist soldiers of the Cadet armies, who for the moment (as in the past were the two former categories) acclaimed as the saviours of their country!

Comment is superfluous.—Yours. A resident of our 30 years.

CANTON, October 21st, 1925.

## ARMS CASES.

At the Kowloon Magistracy yesterday afternoon, before Mr. E. W. Hamilton, and Mr. R. A. D. Forrest, two Chinese appeared on remand in connection with the possession of arms.

A report of the case has previously appeared in the Daily Press.

One defendant, who was charged with the possession of a dagger was sentenced to four years' hard labour and was also sentenced to one year's imprisonment for returning from banishment, the sentences to run concurrently.

The second defendant, who was charged with the possession of a revolver and four rounds of ammunition was discharged.

## HONGKONG'S WRONG DOES.

The report of the Superintendent of Prisons for 1924 contains the information that the number of prisoners received into prison during the year and the corresponding number for 1923 were as follows:—

|                                           | 1923. | 1924. |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Convicted by Ordinary Courts              | 4,277 | 6,338 |
| Convicted by "Court Martial"              | 4     | 1     |
| Debtors                                   | 17    | 30    |
| On remand or in default of finding surety | 1,040 | 1,382 |
|                                           | 5,298 | 7,752 |

There was an increase of 2,044 on the total number of admissions as compared with the year 1923. There was an increase of prisoners convicted for larceny during the year under review, the number being 1,345 against 1,000 for the previous year.

There were 147 prisoners admitted who were convicted by the Police Courts in the New Territories against 89 in 1923.



## THE BUDGET PASSED.

(Continued from page 5.)

## HAWKERS' LICENCES.

As regards the Hawkers' licences to which members have referred, I think it is realised that we have to maintain some proportion between the number actually required or who get some sort of livelihood from hawking and the block in the streets caused by the hawkers' stalls in crowded parts of the city. I have resisted attempts by the Captain Superintendent of Police to reduce the number below certain figures, and I have gone carefully into his arguments on this question of obstruction. The Senior Member of Council and the Chinese members can rest assured that this matter of Hawkers' licences, either owing to obstruction or to the fact that certain classes of hawkers are unnecessary, the number will not be reduced.

## REFUSE DESTROYERS.

The Senior Unofficial member and his colleague referred to the question of refuse destroyers, and I may say at once that when I came to this Colony I came with knowledge of refuse destroyers in the Straits Settlements and Malay States which made me think they were wonderful pieces of refuse and supplying a very good class of nature. I tried to impress my views upon Sir Henry May and found him entirely sympathetic. I considered I was in the right and thought they should be erected in this Colony. Since then we have called for reports from various places, and hon. members will remember that the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. Fletcher, in the debate on the Budget in 1923 referred to his remarks. I am going to refer to the opinion that refuse destroyers here are unnecessary. Dealing with the matter Mr. Fletcher said:

"It was asked that we should have an incinerator for the destruction of rubbish. That question has been gone into exhaustively on three occasions, first in 1901, and again in 1906, when reports were laid on the table in this Council, and again in 1921. On each occasion we asked particulars of Singapore, Penang, Kuala Lumpur, and other towns and the replies were most encouraging because of the enormous expense. The capital cost of building runs as high as six and a half dollars per ton of rubbish consumed annually against our cost of eight cents for all our plant and material. The rubbish is largely of a light vegetable nature and it requires a third of its weight in fuel to consume and leaves a third in slag to be got rid of. The destructor requires complete renewal once every ten years. The question of the disposal of the slag is also a matter of great difficulty. At home it is very much used for road repairs, but here we have a much better and entirely accessible material in granite. Therefore, this slag would have to be carted away. It could be used in reclamation but it would have to be taken there. The nuisance of these collecting stations on the Praya would not necessarily be done away with. The town is very narrow and the destructor would have to be at one end or the other and all refuse would have to be taken along the streets as now. An incinerator must be more or less a nuisance to people in the neighbourhood, and I think it would cause much more trouble than the finding of an occasional cabbage leaf on a bathing beach now does."

That statement to my mind is convincing.

## LATER TRAMS AND FERRIES.

With regard to the question the hon. member has raised concerning late hours for the ferry service and trams, the Western Ferry service is run under contract and I am perfectly certain that if the successful tenderer for that service considered it would pay to run to a later hour he would do it. Even if he would not do it merely for the comfort and convenience of those who liked to stay up very late at night, no doubt special fares could be arranged. Two o'clock in the morning was given as a suitable hour, but I really think that people who can afford initially to stay out until that time for reasons of their own might be expected to be able to afford a motor boat. Trams stop at an early hour. I do not know and have never known the reason. But the same remarks apply to these people on the island who wish to remain up to late hours for reasons into which we need not enquire—they might be expected to pay for a motor car. However, the companies might be approached to see if they would run later services. The ferry runs until one o'clock but that is only for Kowloon. The Peak trams run until 12 o'clock and it is always possible to arrange for a late car. Only the low level trams, therefore, have to be considered. I am surprised that they stop at some extraordinary early hour—10.30 I think. That is a matter for negotiation with the Company.

## LAND SALES.

As regards land sales and the Building Covenants the Government recognises the difficult circumstances and wherever a man is obviously trying to carry out his covenant he will be treated leniently. Circumstances differ in different cases and it is sometimes difficult to know how to deal with these matters. Every case is considered very carefully and certainly there is no intention of imposing heavy fines and penalties at present unless there is an absolute disregard of the building covenant altogether.

## FIRE BRIGADE.

The personnel of the Fire Brigade is certainly rather a serious thing. The present remuneration does not appear to attract and it has been decided to raise it with a view to bringing up the Asiatic portion of the staff. Whether it will be necessary to increase that of the European officers has to be seen. The question of station officers has been gone into very carefully and it was not considered necessary to increase the number. The

only reason given for an increase of station officers is that one might fall sick. But the senior Chinese members of the staff are very efficient and have shown themselves so on many occasions.

## BANYAN TREES.

It is very sad to think that these banyan trees in Nathan Road will have to go sometime. It is recognised that they will have to go when the service of buses is started. They have been carefully counted by the Superintendent of the Botanical and Forestry Department and they will have to come down. They were planted when the road was narrow and are now all over the place. No one dislikes seeing the trees removed more than I do but they constitute a danger. If the branches are lopped on one side and not on the other it makes them unstable and it might mean an accident. There are 200 of them and they will have to go, but not at present. Their time will come when we start strengthening the road and the bus service commences. I thank hon. members for their comments on the estimates. I am speaking for the last time in a Budget debate. We are all more or less in unity as regards the future prosperity of the Colony. (Applause.)

## H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR: Gentlemen, the Director of Public Works and the Colonial Secretary, in a speech which may be described as his swan song, have dealt with most of the points raised. There are, however, one or two on which I should like to say a few words, prefacing them with the observation that if I had realised earlier that this was the last occasion on which the Colonial Secretary of the Council I should have fore-stalled the remarks of the senior Chinese member. I did not realise that the Council would probably not meet again between my departure and that of the Colonial Secretary, and I should like at this point to take the opportunity of thanking him for the highly efficient manner in which he has served as Colonial Secretary for some 15 years in this Colony and for the entirely adequate way in which he has taken the place of Governors during temporary absences.

## JUNIOR CLERICAL SERVICE.

To come to more immediate points. The hon. Senior Unofficial Member referred to the question of classifying the junior Clerical service separately. The Colonial Secretary dealt with one point of view. Mr. Holyoak's point was that under the old system you could see the exact cost of a department. The answer is that you could not. At what figure the cost was put was not the figure of the estimates because the cost of the clerks was bound to change, in two or three months. If you will take the figure under a department in the estimates and add to it the figure given in the appendix, you will get a very much nearer approximation of the truth. But the truth in these cases lies at the bottom of a deep well. The clerical service grouped together saves considerable expenditure of time and stationery in the Treasurer's office and I confidently assure members that this change, for which I take entire responsibility, is a salutary and useful one.

The hon. member also mentioned the question of the abolition of the statistical department. I, like him, am entirely unable to understand the enormous cost of this department, but it is perfectly obvious that the cost was far more than we were justified in paying for statistics which apparently were not required for the commercial community who took no interest in them, and whose accuracy could not be guaranteed in any way whatever. It may be possible, I understand, through a semi-official agency to provide statistics equally valuable at a reasonable rate, and that question will be gone into. At the same time there is a matter in connection with this subject to which I am sorry to have to refer. There is no question that the necessity of providing these statistics gave rise to a great amount of abuse, in connection with these statistics, permits were required for exports, and I have it on evidence, I cannot reject that the necessity of applying for these permits was used by clerks of that department for purposes of obtaining what is known as "squeeze." Had I understood this matter before I should have had an investigation made at once, and I shall certainly not consent to the reconstruction of this department without that matter being investigated. I appeal to our Chinese colleagues to ask them to urge their countrymen to leave such cases to the notice of the Government. I am constantly receiving complaints of "squeeze" in the Government service, but no one will ever come forward and actually sign his name to a complaint. I cannot believe that these numerous complaints have no justification, but it is impossible for the Government to take action unless we can obtain clear evidence. I would ask the Chinese members to ask the Chinese Chamber of Commerce to report any such cases at once.

## MILITARY LANDS.

The hon. member referred to the unfortunate postponement or cancellation of the military lands arrangement. The Oakley award was merely a statement of the amount of money which was to be paid if certain lands in the occupation and possession of the military were taken from them. There was no obligation upon us to take these lands and no obligation on the military to leave them. The only point Sir John Oakley was asked to decide was, in the event of taking the land from the military, what was a fair price to pay. If we do not take the land the question drops at once.

## PORT DEVELOPMENT.

The hon. member referred to the heavy cost of the Port Development Department. I think that the figures in the estimates do not quite indicate the exact facts of the case, because the heavy personal emoluments and other charges which amount to over \$100,000 look high in comparison with the actual expenditure on port works of \$405,000. I must point out that the work of the Department includes the whole of the Praya East reclamation. There is only a very small proportion of the Government contribution included in the estimates, and this would reduce the percentage of personal emoluments on the expenditure of the department to a very low figure. Then you also have to take into account work in connection with the reclamation at North Point. I should strongly deprecate any suggestion of replacing this department under the Director of Public Works because it would not effect any economy. We are paying the Port Engineer precisely the salary as we would pay him as an assistant Director of Public Works and the staff of clerks and accountants would have to remain the same. I would remind hon. members that the main reason for the establishment of this Port Development Department was not that we had any doubt of the ability of the Director of Public Works to construct any work on the earth or in the water but simply because his time is employed so much on other matters that we thought we were not taking full advantage of his experience and abilities if he was tied down to work which might be done by other people. By relieving the Director of Public Works of the Port Development Department it leaves him at liberty to take more direct control over other matters. I think it would be a retrograde step to abolish the Port Development Department.

## FIRE BRIGADE.

The Hon. Mr. Bird's remarks about the Fire Brigade have been dealt with by the Colonial Secretary. I would say that if such and such was the case I regret I did not take a full note of his remarks. My views did not coincide. Well, I am afraid our views do not coincide. (Laughter.)

## NEW TERRITORIES.

With regard to the question of farms in the New Territories I am not less pleased than surprised to hear that there are thousands of acres in the New Territories suitable for extensive agriculture. I can assure him that it is not being put to the best possible use which he will have accomplished a feat which I entirely agree with him as to the desirability of encouraging the inhabitants to grow fruit, vegetables, and so on. Not long ago I was in the village of Kam Tin. I endeavoured to interest the Elders in these matters, and urged them to endeavour to establish themselves so as to supply pigs and chickens especially for this Colony. I said the Government would be happy to consider any proposals or suggestions which they had to put forward. The Elders listened to me with the customary politeness of Chinese Elders, and since then I have heard more. I can assure the hon. member that the Government will take a sympathetic view of any practical scheme. Owing to the smallness of the area it is not possible to do much, but I have had one or two instances before in the last few weeks which suggests that something might be done. For instance Mr. Soares interested me particularly in an excellent banana he is growing successfully and Mr. Alves has established a flourishing ginger plantation in the same neighbourhood. Now that the attention of the public is being gradually turned to the New Territories we may see some development. If we do so one will be more pleased than I shall.

## STREET NAMES.

With regard to the question of street names I think last year I encouraged hon. members to the extent of suggesting that street names would be useful, but I do not think we could possibly regard the placing of street names as a necessity. After all this is not such a very large place and even at times when the trams are running they are in. (Laughter.) The significance between street names and a geological survey escapes me. I deprecate any suggestion that the money provided for the geological survey should be used for any other purposes.

## TREES IN NATHAN ROAD.

With regard to the trees in Nathan Road, referred to by the Colonial Secretary, I quite agree with the hon. member that the banyan trees are most suitable and I shall be glad to see them removed. At the present they do not appear to be doing any particular harm, and if we remove them now we shall have to spend a fairly considerable sum in replacing the road where the trees have been and generally making things tidy. It would be a mistake to get this work in hand considering that in a year or two we shall be improving and widening the roads.

With regard to motor traffic and the desirability of widening the bridges on the Taipo Road, I deprecate the idea that every road in this Colony should be of such a width as to encourage people to drive down them at the greatest possible speed. I suggest that a narrow bridge is only a danger to two people, driving at excessive speed, try to cross at the same time in opposite directions. If drivers would exercise a reasonable amount of intelligence and forethought they would slow down naturally until one person had crossed the bridge. The practice of widening and improving the roads of the Colony just for the sake of trying out the powers of motor cars is not one with which I am personally in sympathy.

## A SUITABLE RESERVE.

The hon. member went on to suggest that economies could be carried too far, and said that in his opinion the financial situation was not such as to necessitate applying the axe to works urgently required and went on to remark that I suggested last year \$5,000,000 as a suitable figure for a reserve. Speaking under the same conditions as last year I should repeat that, but speaking under the conditions as they exist I am by

no means sure that I should. Five million dollars is a nice sum to have in hand for a rainy day when everything is going satisfactorily, and revenue meets expenditure but if your revenue is extremely uncertain and may very likely come very far short of balancing your expenditure, I think it is desirable to keep your reserve as high as you can by cutting out all work not absolutely necessary. I trust and believe that in a few months, or a year's time at the latest, the Colony will be able to bring forward a supplementary list of works which will enable the hon. member to see the streets properly named and carried out, but at the present time I deprecate taking a too optimistic view of the situation which cannot be said to be entirely satisfactory.

## EDUCATION.

I have left to the last the question of education which was raised by the Attorney-General, and by the senior Chinese member. I am afraid I was so wrapped up in the wonderful construction of my predecessor's last paragraph that I rather missed the exact meaning of the Attorney-General's remarks. I think, however, it must be admitted that something has gone wrong with education as applied to the Chinese from Western quarters, and that part taken by students, who should be supposed to have acquired an intelligence beyond that of their uneducated countrymen, has shown that they possess less than the boasts which they are inclined to agree with what I know is the view of the Director of Education. Our mistake has been in attaching too much importance to Western education, from which, if you come to examine the matter very closely, it is not clear that all Occidentals benefit very greatly. It is certainly a mistake that we have not paid more attention to the vernacular education of Chinese. I may tell you that the Director of Education is devoting much time to the discussion of this subject with my entire sympathy and support, and I hope that in due course it will be possible to provide a chain of Chinese education from the vernacular schools for Chinese to Chinese faculty in the University. I think I have dealt with all the points raised, and any other point hon. members desire me to dilate upon further I shall be prepared to do so. (Applause.)

## UNOFFICIALS' REPLY.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK: I wish to reply to some of the statements which have been made, but at the outset I should like to say that the Unofficial Members do not realise that this would be the last occasion on which the Colonial Secretary would be present at the meeting of Council. If we had made some reference to it and should have associated ourselves with the remarks which have been made by you, Sir, and by the Senior Chinese Member, I anticipated that he would be present at a later meeting and that we should have an opportunity of taking an official farewell then.

## WATER SCHEMES.

With reference to the question of water schemes I am glad to have the assurance of the Director of Public Works that those schemes will be continued. I must confess, however, that I was somewhat surprised to hear that the contract for the Bowen Road Fast Gravity Filtration Plant had been let to Messrs. Patterson without reference to the Finance Committee, for the simple reason that the Director of Public Works knows the Finance Committee took a personal interest in the matter and inspected the system in force and made recommendations. From that time on we have had neither a report nor any other reference in connection with this question. I learn now for the first time that the Patterson system has been adopted. I know that that system has been almost entirely scrapped in England, and that the system we advocated has been very largely, almost universally, adopted and has given satisfaction. I submit the question should have been submitted to us as a Committee. The explanation was definitely adopted. The explanation of the Director of Public Works in connection with my remarks on "Other Charges" really bear on the general subject of putting in large sums of money without definite explanations. On more than one occasion we have had to refer, in Finance Committee, to votes which had to be passed without sufficient explanation and this is part and parcel of the same thing.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR: I rather think that there is some misunderstanding. The figure quoted on page 79 of the estimates is made up of a very large number of estimates which are explained both in the draft estimates and in the notes covering the differences in the estimates. The hon. member should appreciate that the total may cover 40 items.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK: It might be appreciated by an accountant, but I am not an accountant.

## EAST PRAYA DRAINAGE.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK: On the question of Praya East drainage I could not help noting the remark of the Director of Public Works that he "hoped" the contractor responsible would improve the position. Surely it is for the Director of Public Works to insist upon the improvement.

## REFUSE DESTROYERS.

With regard to refuse destroyers, notwithstanding the fact that the Colonial Secretary has referred to us the statement made in previous discussions, I would beg you to note it is the unanimous recommendation of the Unofficial Members that refuse destroyers should be experimented with.

## TRADE STATISTICS.

I am glad to hear that some arrangement may be made for the continuance of the figures in connection with the Imports and Exports Department. I was asked to raise this question by interested merchants who are, perhaps, more interested than they appear to be. The real fact is that in almost every other port in the world you have Customs, in Hongkong you have none. Whilst it is true that the Chinese Maritime Customs function they do not function fully as far as Hongkong returns are concerned. If it was desired to find out in two years time what effect the strike had had in Hongkong trade it would be impossible to get the necessary information without these figures. The argument that the Import and Export figures are not reliable is no argument against the need for keeping them but is rather an argument against the method of compiling them. Without such figures it is impossible to make a comparison between one year and another and what is more important there is no means of comparing the imports into this Colony of competing countries. They are part of world trade statistics and Hongkong should not be lacking in that respect. We do feel that the cost of the Department is preposterous and that the cost ought to be very much lower than it has been.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY: There are a tremendous number of items and it is purely physical work in recording them.

## DANGEROUS BRIDGES.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK: With reference to the Taipo Road bridges, I agree with Your Excellency's remarks as to speed, of course, but for a long time past the first section of the Taipo Road has been a menace to safety. From a motorist's point of view—and I speak as one who drives, they are a positive danger. They should have been one of the first improvements undertaken. Money has been spent on other roads which should have been spent on the main road in the New Territories. We submit that the improvement of the road ought now to be amongst the first of new work undertaken. The first three bridges are extremely dangerous and very narrow.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY: The bridges between the Reservoir and Shatin?

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK: Yes. They are very dangerous however carefully you drive.

The Bill was then read a second time. Council went into Committee to consider details of the Bill. No changes were made in Committee, and upon Council resuming.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the third reading of the Bill. The Colonial Treasurer seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed. Council adjourned sine die.

## WASH AMAH'S MONEY.

At the Central Magistracy yesterday, Mr. S. B. B. McElderry reserved his decision in the case, reported in yesterday's issue, in which a Chinese wash amah was charged with attempting to export over \$3,000 in bank notes from the Colony.

The money, it is alleged, was found on her when she was stopped at the Wing Lok Wharf by police officers on Tuesday. When she appeared on Wednesday before His Worship, the defendant told him that the money represented all her life savings and denied that she was attempting to export it. Yesterday, His Worship said that he desired further enquiries to be made as to where she obtained the money and adjourned the case for one week.

Mr. L. D. Turner, who defended her, said on the basis of \$9 a month her savings for 27 years amounted to nearly \$2,000. To this had to be added the money which the woman had stated she received from a relative to buy a house in the country.

## ANOTHER EXPORTING CHARGE.

A Chinese was charged yesterday at the Central Magistracy with attempting to remove \$73 when he was caught on the Macao boat on Wednesday.

Detective Sub-Inspector Shannon said that money changers here allowed a premium of 14 per cent. on local money when changing into Kwangtung currency. Double the amount of premium was obtained in Canton and Macao on Hongkong money.

A fine of \$10 was imposed.

## KAUKONG CLASH.

## TWO CHINESE VERSIONS.

Accusing the town of Kaukung, along the West River, at which Hongkong-Wuchow steamers call regularly for silk under normal conditions, of having given aid to anti-Reds, the Kuomintang Red Army attacked it on October 18th, with the village and the merchants volunteer defence corps defending the town. writes a Chinese correspondent. Reports to hand give the casualties as 100 of the people and 300 Reds. In course of hostilities, 42 or 43 houses were destroyed, involving a loss of about \$500,000. In the first two days of the conflict, the volunteers disarmed nearly 500 Reds.

A report by another Chinese correspondent states that Chiang's troops arrived off Kaukung on October 10th in several transports with a launch in tow, but one of the vessels struck a mine previously laid by the volunteers. About 300 Red soldiers were killed in the explosion. As a consequence, General Li Fook Lam was instructed to send a reinforcement of 800 soldiers to strengthen the weakened forces but, on arrival they were immediately disarmed by the volunteers.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## LABOUR LEADERS' POWER IN CANTON.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.")

Sir,—In the Canton Gazette of yesterday was published an order issued by the Military Council of the Nationalist Government to various organizations, which reads as follows:—

"The letter of the Strike Committee stated that they received a report from the Patrol Leader Chan Chuk declaring that a service steamer was seen smuggling provisions to the enemies, and passengers to Hongkong and Macao. The Government was requested to order the different organizations to notify their subordinates not to violate the strike, as such action when found out would be strictly dealt with. It was decided at the meeting of the Standing Committee to hand over the matter to the Military Council for settlement. All military officials are expected to restrict their subordinates, and to adhere to the order."

Not having seen any formal declaration of war we are wondering who the enemies were, but perhaps two incidents which occurred on the same day may throw some light on the subject.

A Swiss citizen resident on Shamonea paying a business call on a Chinese friend in the City was by the latter presented with a reasonable delicacy in the shape of a tin of ricebirds. On returning he was stopped by the strike-pickets outside the French bridge, who informed him that no food stuffs were permitted to enter the island.

The same thing happened to a member of the American Consular Service who was later in the day bringing home a bunch of bananas.

It would, therefore, appear that, unless these citizens of two friendly sister republics received supplies from Hongkong, they are confronted with the alternative of dying of starvation or of leaving Kwangtung.

Such is the strike pickets' inhumanity to "guests" from abroad, but their inhumanity towards their own kith and kin goes somewhat further. The Kung-yi Hospital saw fit recently to discontinue the services of three incompetent gardeners. This resulted in the calling out of all servants, and as the hospital draws its water supply from hospital wells, water for the inmates, including 150 wounded men from the Eastern front, was practically non-obtainable. As these could not be allowed to die of thirst or have their condition aggravated on account of lack of water, whereupon to wash and dress their wounds the hospital authorities had, after three days, to capitulate and accept the terms dictated, which were that no person can be discharged except with the consent of Strike Committee, and, even if that be accorded, wages up to the end of the current month must be paid plus one month's extra wages.

This callous treatment was meted out by these petty tyrants, whom the Government acknowledges its inability to control, not to "guests" such as the Yunnanese, whom, after they have fought, one's battles, one flings into Canals and stones to death with paving stones, nor "dogrugging Cantonese henchmen of the traitor Chan Kwing Ming," but to full-blooded one hundred per cent. nationalist soldiers of the Cadet armies, who are for the moment (as in the past were the two former categories) acclaimed as the saviours of their country!

Comment is superfluous.—Yours. A. Ro-

dent of our 30 years.

CANTON, October 21st, 1925.

## ARMS CASES.

At the Kowloon Magistracy yesterday afternoon, before Mr. E. W. Hamilton, and Mr. R. A. D. Forrest, two Chinacappeared on remand in connection with the possession of arms.

A report of the case has previously appeared in the Daily Press.

One defendant, who was charged with the possession of a dagger and was also sentenced to four years' hard labour and was also sentenced to one year's imprisonment for returning from banishment, the sentences to run concurrently.

The second defendant, who was charged with the possession of a revolver and four rounds of ammunition was discharged.

## HONGKONG'S WRONG DOES.

The report of the Superintendent of Prisons for 1924 contains the information that the number of prisoners received into prison during the year and the corresponding number for 1923 were as follows:—

|                                           | 1923. | 1924. |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Convicted by Ordinary Courts              | 4,277 | 6,338 |
| Convicted by Court Martial                | 4     | 1     |
| Debtors                                   | 17    | 29    |
| On remand or in default of finding surety | 1,040 | 1,382 |
|                                           | 5,338 | 7,382 |

There was an increase of 2,044 on the total number of admissions as compared with the year 1923. There was an increase of prisoners convicted for larceny during the year under review, the number being 1,345 against 1,000 for the previous year.

There were 147 prisoners admitted who were convicted by the Police Courts in the New Territories against 90 in 1923.







## SHIPPING NEWS

## ARRIVALS.

October 21st.

*Batavia*, British str., 334 tons, Capt. A. N. Seaton, from Kwang Chow Wan, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. 44.—Wa On S.S. Co.

*Clara Jensen*, Danish str., 1,145 tons, Capt. P. Christensen, from Bangkok and Swatow, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. 42.—Kwang Ngin Seng.

*Seitan*, British str., 1,431 tons, Capt. P. Munday, from Amoy, lying at buoy No. 24.—Cheong Hoo S.S. Co.

October 22nd.

*Haigang*, British str., 1,383 tons, Capt. J. S. Thomson, from Penang and Hoikow, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. 44.—Douglas, Laprak & Co.

*Hozan Maru*, Japanese str., 2,380 tons, Capt. S. Tabata, from Swatow, with a general cargo, lying at O.S.K. wharf.—O.S.K.

*Munsterland*, German str., 3,864 tons, Capt. Wm. Hennecke, from Yokohama and Keelung, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. A2.—Jensen & Co.

*Sangshan Maru*, Japanese str., 1,563 tons, Capt. G. Kawamura, from Shanghai and Swatow, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. C18.—N.Y.K.

*Tajima Maru*, Japanese str., 4,273 tons, Capt. M. Tani, from Liverpool, with a general cargo, lying at Kowloon wharf.—N.Y.K.

*Ng Tai Chuan*, Chinese str., from Mucuo, lying at Yamuti.

## CLEARANCES.

October 22nd.

*Kuichow*, for Chefoo.

*Ming Sang*, for Hoikow.

*Munsterland*, for Hoikow.

*Sangshan Maru*, for Swatow.

*Tajima Maru*, for Shanghai.

*Thienchen*, for Kwang Chow Wan.

*Tykenburg*, for Singapore.

*Wa Nan*, for Shanghai.

## PASSENGERS.

ARRIVALS.

Per s.s. *Hozan Maru*, on October 22nd: Mr. F. W. Mohr.

## SHIPPING MOVEMENTS.

The Ben Line s.s. *Bendatung*, from Middlesbrough, Antwerp, London and Straits, left Cadiz (P.L.) from this port on October 21st, and is due to arrive here tomorrow.

The R.M.S. *Empress of Australia*, which left Hongkong on October 2nd, arrived at Vancouver, on October 21st.

## VESSELS EXPECTED.

*Caribea* (R.I. & Apear), due October 29th.

*Talma* (R.I. & Apear), due today.

## HONGKONG METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Hongkong Observatory, October 22nd.

|                | Previous Day | On Date   | On Date   |
|----------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
|                | at 2 p.m.    | at 6 a.m. | at 2 p.m. |
| Barometer      | 29.98        | 29.00     | 30.06     |
| Temperature    | 74           | 72        | 77        |
| Humidity       | 65           | 72        | 64        |
| Wind Direction | SE           | NE        | ESE       |
| Force          | 2            | 3         | 3         |
| Weather        | 0            | B         | B         |
| Rain           | 0.0          | 0.00      | 0.00      |

Highest open-air temperature on 21st ... 78

Lowest open-air temperature on 22nd ... 72

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| Further Sailings | Expected on or about | Will leave homeward-bound on or about |
|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| M/S. "Afrika"    | 7th November         | 20 of Dec.                            |
| M/S. "Malaya"    | 15th December        |                                       |

Subject to change without notice.

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## SHIPPING NOTES.

The shipping statement for yesterday showed that the total number of vessels in the harbour at 9 a.m. was 63, of which 37 were British.

For the 24 hours ended at 9 a.m. yesterday there were eight arrivals, of which four were British, one Danish, one Dutch, one German and one Japanese. The departures for the same period numbered eleven, including the s.s. *Kotaka Maru* for Swatow.

The arrivals were the s.s. *Seitan* (British) from Amoy with general cargo for transshipment to Singapore and mail; the s.s. *Hak Yang* (British) from Penang and Hoikow with 1,200 tons of general cargo and mail; the s.s. *Hydrangea* (British) from Swatow with 180 tons of general cargo; the s.s. *Batavia* (British) from Kwang Chow Wan with 180 tons of general cargo; the s.s. *Clara Jensen* (Danish) from Bangkok and Swatow with 1,500 tons of general cargo and mail; the s.s. *Tjikembang* (Dutch) from Shanghai and Amoy with mail, but only a through cargo; the s.s. *Munsterland* (German) from Yokohama and Keelung with 11 tons of general cargo and mail and the s.s. *Hozan Maru* (Japanese) from Keelung and Swatow with 500 tons of coal and 343 tons of general merchandise and mail.

Later arrivals scheduled were the s.s. *Fooking* from the Straits and the s.s. *Kwangse* from Shanghai. Due today are the s.s. *Talma* from Amoy; the s.s. *Kulung*, with papers only from Hime and Europe (via Negapatam, London, Sept. 24th); the s.s. *President McKinley* from Manila and the s.s. *President Wilson* from Manila. Due tomorrow is the s.s. *Son Francisco Maru* with 1,000 tons of Europe mail (London, September 24th). On Monday the s.s. *Caribea* should arrive from the Straits and the R.M.S. *Empress of Canada* from Manila. On Tuesday the s.s. *President Jefferson* is due from the North and the s.s. *President Lincoln* follows here on Thursday. All the above vessels, apart from those mentioned as bringing Home mail, will bring mail from their respective ports.

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Captain R. HANCOCK, D.S.O., R.N.R., carrying 124 Passengers, will be despatched from this port on or about WEDNESDAY, the 28th OCTOBER, 1925, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports. Silk, Valuables and Tea for Italy, France and London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Bombay into the Mail Steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London. 8 p.m. the Day before Sailing. The contents and value of all packages must be declared. For further Particulars, Apply to—MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO., Agents.  
Hongkong, 22nd October, 1925. [2797]

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|----------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Nov. 4         | Nov. 6        | EXPRESS RUSSIA Nov. 7  | Nov. 9          |
| Dec. 13        | Dec. 20       | EXPRESS ASIA Dec. 21   | Dec. 23         |
|                |               | EXPRESS CANADA Dec. 21 | Dec. 23         |

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KAGA MARU ... Thursday, 19th Nov.

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FUSHIMI MARU ... Saturday, 24th Oct. at 11 a.m.

HAKOZAKI MARU ... Saturday, 7th Nov.

HAKUBAN MARU ... Saturday, 21st Nov.

HAMBURG via LONDON &amp; ROTTERDAM.

MITO MARU ... Sunday, 1st Nov.

LIVERPOOL via ADEN &amp; MARSEILLES.

TSUSHIMA MARU ... Sunday, 8th Nov.

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MISHIMA MARU ... Wednesday, 18th Nov. at 11 a.m.

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TSUYAMA MARU ... Monday, 26th Oct.

BUENOS AIRES via Singapore, Durban &amp; Cape Town, Delagoa Bay &amp; Algoa Bay.

AWA MARU ... Monday, 2nd Nov.

CALCUTTA via Singapore, Penang &amp; Rangoon.

MOJI MARU ... End of Oct.

BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang &amp; Colombo.

TAMBA MARU ... Wednesday, 28th Oct.

NAGASAKI, KOBE &amp; YOKOHAMA.

TANGO MARU ... Thursday, 19th Nov.

SHANGHAI, KOBE &amp; YOKOHAMA.

TAJIMA MARU ... Friday, 23rd Oct.

WAKASA MARU ... Monday, 26th Oct.

HARUNA MARU ... Tuesday, 3rd Nov.

KAMO MARU ... Tuesday, 17th Nov.

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|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|----------------------|
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| HONGKONG                 | "CHANSANG"   | Saturday  | 24th Oct. at Noon    |
| KOBE via MOJI            | "FOOKSANG"   | Saturday  | 24th Oct. at 6 p.m.  |
| KOBE via AMOY & SHANGHAI | "KUEISANG"   | Tuesday   | 27th Oct. at 7 a.m.  |
| SHANGHAI via TAKAO       | "PAISANG"    | Wednesday | 28th Oct. at 7 a.m.  |
| STRAITS & CALCUTTA       | "NAMKANG"    | Saturday  | 31st Oct. at Noon    |
| TIENTSIN                 | "CHEONGSANG" | Sunday    | 1st Nov. at Noon     |

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[6]

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| "GLENSHIRE" | 13th "       |
| "GLENSHIRE" | 24th "       |
| "GLENSHIRE" | 24th "       |

## HOMWARDS

| Vessel            | Leaves Hongkong | (Discharge)                           |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| "CARMARTHENSHIRE" | 24th Nov.       | London, Rotterdam & Hamburg via Oron. |
| "GLENSHIRE"       | 24th Dec.       | London, Rotterdam & Hamburg.          |

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[11]

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| "TRIET"                                                                  | 7th November                          | 14th November, 1925                                                                                   |
| "SAARBUECKEN"                                                            | 5th December                          | 12th December, 1925                                                                                   |
| "COBLENZ"                                                                | 2nd January                           | 13th January, 1926                                                                                    |
| "ANHALT"                                                                 | 30th January                          | 7th February, 1926                                                                                    |
| "FULDA"                                                                  | 27th February                         | 4th April, 1926                                                                                       |
| "DREIFLINGER"                                                            | 27th March                            | 1st May, 1926                                                                                         |
| "SAARBUECKEN"                                                            | 24th April                            | 25th May, 1926                                                                                        |

For Freight and Passage, please apply to—

MELCHERS &amp; CO.,

Telephone C. 4557.

8, Queen's Building, Chater Road.

Agents, HONGKONG.

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## JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN-LIJN.



REGULAR FORTNIGHT SERVICE BETWEEN JAVA, CHINA AND JAPAN.

| STEAMERS   | FROM            | EXPECTED ON OR ABOUT | WILL LEAVE ON OR ABOUT | FOR                    |
|------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| TJIKEMBANG | SHANGHAI        | 21st Oct.            | 22nd Oct.              | S'FORE & BATAVIA       |
| TJIKEMBANG | BATAVIA         | 2nd Nov.             | 2nd Nov.               | SHANGHAI               |
| TJIKEMBANG | JAPAN           | 5th "                | 5th "                  | BATAVIA                |
| TJIKEMBANG | N. CHINA & AMOY | 3rd "                | 3rd "                  | S'FORE, M'KAR & S'BAIA |
| TJIKEMBANG | JAVA via M'KAR  | 3rd "                | 3rd "                  | JAPAN                  |
| TJIKEMBANG | N. CHINA & AMOY | 12th "               | 14th "                 | M'KAR & S'BAIA         |
| TJIKEMBANG | JAPAN           | 19th "               | 21st "                 | BATAVIA                |
| TJIKEMBANG | JAVA via M'KAR  | 20th "               | 22nd "                 | AMOY & SHANGHAI        |

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The steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon passengers. All steamers carry a daily qualified surgeon. Cargo taken at through rates to all ports in Netherlands India and Australia.  
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JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.



Pier and the V.R.C. she was  
splendid reception and loud  
She finished about 250 yards  
Miss Bounpier, who was also  
greeted, and swam strongly to  
The race between Miss D.  
Miss B. George for third place

as given a  
ly cheered.  
in front of  
vociferously  
the finish.  
Hunt and  
ce, was well

costume that was  
dancer that lacked grace.  
This rehearsal was preliminary  
annual display which Miss  
her pupils are to give on Nov.  
and 11th. It will be an attractive  
gramme.

majority of remoting stations  
cyclone over China having a  
Fresh N.E. winds will continue  
Formosa Channel along the  
of China and over the Noron  
oca.

[illegible]

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**NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.**  
FROM UNITED KINGDOM via PORTS.  
**OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO. LTD.**  
AND  
**CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO. LTD.**

**THE T. Steamship "CARMAATHENSIRE"**  
having arrived from the United Kingdom, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that all goods being landed at their risk into the

**CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamship "NINGCHOW"**  
are hereby notified that the Cargo will be charged into Hoï's Stevedores when the ship arrives at Shanghai. Consignees are hereby notified that the Cargo will be charged into Hoï's Stevedores when the ship arrives at Shanghai.

delivered must be presented on the specified day, and must also be presented within 30 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by  
**JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,**  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 17th October, 1925. [2772]

remaining undelivered after the 29th Nov. will be subject to Rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before 29th Nov., or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

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 complete by The Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co. Ltd., Hongkong, for their own  
 R.F., Breadth 34' (m), Depth 17' (m), I.H.P. 2,000. Fitted with electrically driven  
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